

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST



Agriculture is the most healthful, the most useful, and the most noble employment of Man.--Washington.

Vol. I.

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No. 5.

A. B. ALLEN, and R. L. ALLEN, Editors.

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"THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST"

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Advertisements will be inserted at \$1, if not exceeding twelve lines, and in the same proportion if exceeding that number.

The American Institute.

The charter for the incorporation of this valuable institution, was granted by the Legislature of the State of New York, to be located in this city, May 2, 1829. Its objects, as recited in the act of incorporation, were "for the purpose of encouraging and promoting domestic industry in this state and the United States, in agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and the arts, and any improvements made therein, by bestowing rewards and other benefits on those who shall make any such improvements, or excel in any of the said branches, and by such other ways and means as shall appear to be most expedient." A noble object truly, and how well carried out by those interested with its management, the long file of records of its transactions, and the united testimony of the community who have participated in its benefits, will amply show. In the incipient stages of its existence, its influence was limited, from the want of efficient organiza-

tion, and such an amount of pecuniary means as were essential to its success. But after its more thorough organization, a plan of operations was matured and adopted, which, with the aid of more extended pecuniary contributions, have enabled the competent and devoted men who have directed its efforts, to realise, in no inconsiderable degree, the benefits anticipated from its creation. These benefits have been two-fold; 1st, the collection of information on the various subjects embraced in its charter, for the purpose of disseminating it abroad over the community, through all the means available for this object; by a well selected and extensive library, by popular discussions and lectures, but principally by the aid of the press, which has been made the vehicle of spreading throughout the United States, a vast amount of the most important facts connected with the best interests of every citizen, in the various reports and addresses from committees that have, from time to time, been appointed for this purpose; and 2nd, the excitement of a laudable competition through its annual fairs, which, in collecting a great number and variety of the best specimens in every occupation both of nature and art, have stimulated to an incredible extent, the development of American industry, skill, and resources. These fairs are got up in the most liberal, attractive, and efficient form. In the midst of a city containing more than one-third of a million of active and intelligent citizens, the commercial emporium of the United States, accessible to its remotest borders by its direct channels of communication, the ocean,

navigable rivers, canals and rail roads, and the resort of intelligence and enterprise from every quarter of the globe, these annual exhibitions have displayed the congregated products of the best portion of a Hemisphere. Every arrangement that could add effect and interest to this exhibition have been provided. The most ample and convenient room has been afforded, and a refined and elegant taste has given to them order, beauty, and attraction, by the nice adjustment and harmonious grouping of the varied productions of the husbandman, the artisan, the manufacturer, and the artist. The beneficial effects that have resulted from these exhibitions, and which are yet to be developed in their progressive influence, cannot be estimated. They have excited the indolent, they have enlightened the ignorant, they have rewarded the meritorious, and they have cheered the hopes of every lover of his country who has witnessed them.

We have but few of the data of the transactions of the Institute before us; but from these we learn, that the aggregate receipts for the last seven years have been \$51,920 96, all of which has been rigidly applied to promote the objects of its existence. Of this large amount, nearly all has been the contribution from private and individual liberality, a small portion only having been appropriated by the Legislature of the State. The greater part of this sum has been required for the large expenditures for rents, library, printing, and the various disbursements incidental to its operations; leaving but a small amount to be applied as premiums to the successful competitors for its rewards. We subjoin the last in a tabulated form:—

Year.	Gold Medals.	Silver Medals.	Silver Cups.	Diplomas.	Vois.	Value.
1835	16	91	00	340	00	\$905 40
1836	27	125	00	249	00	1138 00
1837	29	126	00	308	00	1198 30
1838	26	167	00	396	00	1370 04
1839	27	124	13	384	00	1155 44
1840	12	60	18	331	00	842 50
1841	17	118	18	336	26	1172 03
Total,	154	811	49	2344	26	\$7781 71

It will be seen, that the total of expenditures for all the objects embraced by the Institute, besides the honorary rewards in diplomas to the number of 2,344, amounts to \$7,781 71. But, as our design in calling the attention of our readers to the Institute is strictly connected with the objects of our work, we shall confine ourselves entirely to its agricultural character. We find the Premiums awarded to the agricultural department are—

Year	Gold Medals.	Silver Medals.	Silver Cups.	Diplomas.	Vois.	Value.
1835	1	4	00	17	00	\$43 50
1836	3	9	00	28	00	104 00
1837	2	15	00	39	00	110 00
1838	4	21	00	42	00	176 00
1839	6	17	13	70	00	323 24
1840	2	12	18	60	00	332 25
1841	6	31	17	71	26	529 97
Total,	24	109	48	327	26	\$1618 96

Although the above amount seems small in comparison with the large sum received, yet in the various disbursements for rents for the accommodation of farming implements, steam-engine for propelling farming and other machinery, printing reports on agricultural subjects, and the incidental expenses connected with this object, nearly one-third of the gross receipts have been expended. As agriculturists, however, and representing by far the most numerous and important branch of the industrial portion of the country, we think we have a right to claim a greater share of the attention and pecuniary means of the Institute. Though receiving its charter and organization from a single State, that one, by universal consent, is the *Empire State*. Its objects have ever been, and, we trust, will ever be, as its name imports, truly and entirely national. Every citizen of this wide-spread Union, has an equal claim to its benefits and rewards. And occupying as it does, in its locality, the commercial centre of the country, we are desirous of seeing it, as it may be, the agricultural centre likewise, to such extent, at least, as a national stamp can be imparted to any agricultural society in a country embracing so widely-diversified climate, productions, and extent. We are desirous of seeing increased efficiency and devotion to this feature in its character, and think we discover in the progressive advancement made in this branch within the last few years, the rapid approximation to our most sanguine wishes.

The amount to be appropriated in agricultural premiums this season, is about \$800; while the expenses of fitting up and rents for the various rooms and grounds, will be equal to thrice this amount. We are not satisfied, however, with the meagre lists of animals and products receiving rewards from the Institute; and we hope, before the arrangements for the Fair of the ensuing season are matured, such accessions to its agricultural department will have been received, as to afford the full measure of importance and weight to which it is intrinsically entitled.

We annex the agricultural and horticultural lists of premiums, committees (so far as

they are completed,) and the rules and arrangements for the coming Fair, which is to be held in this city in October, 1842.

PLOWING MATCH.

The Plowing Match will take place at East New-York, on Long Island, about five miles from the city, on Wednesday, the 12th day of October. For the best Plow, Silver Cup. For the second best Plow, Silver Medal. The following premiums will be awarded for the best Plowing, performed within one hour, on one eighth acre of green sward: Best Plowing, Silver Cup, value 8 dollars. Second Best Plowing, Silver Medal.—Third Best Plowing, Diploma. JEREMIAH JOHNSON, N. Y., ALLEN PUTNAM, MASS., P. SCHUYLER, N. J., Committee on Plows and Plowing.

Exhibition of Pure Blood and Native Cattle.

The Committee have again secured the extensive premises at the junction of Broadway and Union Place, which will be completely arranged with suitable sheds, stalls and pens, for the ample and safe accommodation of the various kinds of stock presented. Messrs. Whitney, Poole, Choules, Schuyler and Clark, the Superintending Committee, will have the entire control of the arrangement of the Cattle Exhibition. Feed of every description will be provided on the ground at the cheapest possible rate, for those who wish to purchase; and as no entrance money for Cattle will be required, and Exhibitors may bring their own feed, the expenses of the occasion will be greatly reduced. Careful and experienced men will be in attendance to assist in taking charge of the animals.

List of Premiums on Cattle.

BULLS.

- For the best Bull of an improved breed, 2 years old and upwards—Gold Medal or Silver Cup, \$15 00
For the second best do. of an improved breed, 2 years old and upwards—Silver Medal.
For the best one year old do. of an improved breed—Silver Cup, 10 00
For the second best do. do.—Silver Medal.
For the best Bull Calf, do.—Silver Cup, 8 00
For the second best do. do.—Silver Medal.

COWS.

- For the best Cow, of an improved breed, 3 years old and upwards—Gold Medal or Silver Cup, 15 00
For the second best do. of an improved breed, 3 years old and upwards—Silver Medal.
For the best one year old Heifer—Silver Cup, 10 00
For the second best do.—Silver Medal.
For the best Heifer Calf—Silver Cup, 8 00
For the second best do.—Medal.

NATIVE STOCK.

- For the best Bull, native breed, 2 years and upwards—Silver Cup, 10 00
For the second best do.—Silver Medal
For the best Bull Calf, do. do.
For the best Cow, do. three years and upwards—Silver Cup, 10 00
For the second best do. do.—Silver Medal.
For the best Heifer Calf do.

WORKING OXEN.

- For the best pair of Working Oxen—Gold Medal or Silver Cup, 15 00
For the second best do.—Silver Medal.
Fat Cattle will receive discretionary premiums.
For a method of working oxen without the use of the common yoke, which, in the judgment of the Committee, shall be deemed an improvement—Silver Cup, 10 00

SHEEP.

- For the best Buck—Silver Cup, 8 00

- For the second best do.—Silver Medal,
For the best Ewe—Silver Cup, 8 00
For the second best do.—Silver Medal.
For the best Wether, do.
For the best Lamb, do.

SWINE.

- For the best Boar—Silver Cup, 8 00
For the second best do.—Diploma.
For the best Sow—Silver Cup, 8 00
For the second best do.—Diploma.
For the best Shoat, do.

HORSES.

- For the best Stud Horse—Gold Medal or Silver Cup, 15 00
For the second best do.—Silver Medal.
For the best brood Mare—Gold Medal or Silver Cup, 15 00
For the second best do.—Silver Medal.
For the best Colt, not exceeding 2 years old—Silver Cup, 8 00
For the best Jack—Silver Cup, 8 00

MULES.

- For the best pair of working Mules—Silver Cup, 10 00

REGULATIONS.

1. All entries of Stock must be made, either verbally or in writing, at the office of the Secretary of the American Institute in the Park, rear of the City Hall, on or before Monday, the 17th day of October, with full pedigrees of the animals, their breed, ages, owner's names, &c., and with such observations, as to their food, thrift, constitution, milking or fattening qualities, as they may see fit to append. This is absolutely necessary, that the Secretary may be able to prepare a Catalogue in time for the use of the Examining Committee; and neither the Secretary nor the Committee will be responsible for the omission of any animal on the Catalogue, if this rule is not complied with.

2. All animals must be upon the ground by 9 o'clock, A. M. on Wednesday, Oct. 19, attended by their owners or keepers, for the inspection of the Examining Committee.

3. The Judges upon Stock, will meet at Niblo's Garden at half past 8 o'clock, A. M., of the 19th day of October, to organize and proceed immediately to the discharge of their several duties. On the completion of their awards, the Committees will append to each prize animal a certificate designating the particular premium awarded.

4. No animals can be removed after entry, without the consent of the Superintending Committee.

5. A public sale of pure blood Cattle will take place on Friday, Oct. 21st, at 10 o'clock, A. M. when an auctioneer will be provided at the expense of the Institute, for the disposal of the same, and it is particularly desired that they may be specially designated as for sale on the Catalogue.

6. All animals will be admitted on the ground designated for the exhibition, on the presentation of a Ticket, which the owners or proprietors will obtain from the Secretary at the time of entering the same.

7. The rule in force at former Fairs, of excluding animals which have already taken prizes at the American Institute, is now abolished, and the premiums are now open for competition without reservation.

Judges on Cattle.—Francis Rotch, N. York; L. F. Allen, do.; B. V. French, Mass.; David Haggerson, do.; C. M. Giddings, Ohio.

Judges on Horses.—Charles Henry Hall, N. York; William T. Porter, do; Henry Wheeler, do.

Judges on Swine.—R. L. Allen, N. York; A. De Russey, N. Jersey; William K. Townsend, Conn.

Judges on Sheep.—E. P. Prentice, N. York; John B. Taintor, Conn.; Francis Rotch, Jr. N. York.

Judges on Agricultural Products.—Henry Colman, N. York; Eli Ives, Conn.; Francis Price, N. Jersey.
Judges of Dairy Products.—Luther Tucker, N. York; John E. Hoyt, Conn.; Charles A. Stetson, N. York.

The Committee on Horticulture, in conjunction with the Agricultural Board of the American Institute, have, after mature deliberation, concluded, that as Autumn, (the time of holding the Annual Fair,) is not the most propitious season for an Exhibition of the choicest specimens of Flowers, the objects of the Institute will be better promoted, by not confining their premiums to any select species or varieties, but to offer inducements to all Horticulturists and Florists, professional and amateur, to furnish daily supplies of the Flowers of the season for the decoration of the Horticultural Rooms; and thus stimulate their fellow citizens in general, to pursue that most healthful and enchanting of all recreations, the cultivation of Flowers.

It is proposed to set apart the second story of the north wing of the Saloon in NIBLO'S GARDEN, expressly for the purpose of exhibiting Agricultural and Horticultural productions, and the rooms will be so fitted up, that their contents can be seen by visitors to the best possible advantage, without risk of despoliation. A skilful Gardner will be engaged, to receive and arrange all the field and garden products, such as Vegetables, Grain, Fruit, Flowers, or whatever may be committed to his care, and the Horticultural Committee will be in attendance daily, to superintend that particular department, to see that every contributor to the Horticultural show is fully and fairly represented, by his name being attached in legible and uniform characters to every article he may offer for exhibition, and to record every transaction for the government of the Judges at the time of deciding the premiums, when the quantity as well as the quality of the Flowers furnished will be duly considered, and the names of all contributors to the Ornamental department, entered on the annals of the Institute.

The Board of Managers of the last Annual Fair, having awarded several copies of Agricultural and Horticultural Books, as premiums for superior specimens of Garden and Field productions, and this present Board being of opinion that mental acquirements are the most enduring memorials, have been induced to follow so wise and noble an example. Competitors are hereby assured, that each volume will be embellished with a tablet, containing the name and object for which it was awarded, so as to render it a truly honourable memento, in the following form:

 * AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE, *
 * AT THEIR FIFTEENTH ANNUAL FAIR, 1842. *
 * To A. B., as a Premium for superior specimens of Garden Products. *

All imperishable articles, to be entitled to free privileges, must be delivered to the Clerk of the Fair, entered on the Books, and receipts taken, either on Friday, the 7th, or Saturday, the 8th of October. RIPE FRUITS, DELICATE PLANTS, FLOWERS, &c. may be deferred until the morning of the 10th, provided they are in their places by noon, on which time of the day they must be brought on the succeeding days.

The following Premiums are offered:

FLOWERS.

For the best and greatest display of Green and Hot-house Plants—Silver Medal.
 Best and greatest variety of Cut Flowers, from do.—A copy of Downing's Rural Architecture.
 Best and most beautiful Bouquet—Silver Medal.

Second best do.—A copy of Downing's Cottage Architecture.

Third best do.—A copy of the American Flower Garden Directory.

Best and greatest display of Dahlias and other Flowers exhibited during the Fair—Silver Cup.

Second best supply of do. do. do.—A Silver Medal.

Third best do. do.—A copy of the American Botanical and Horticultural Magazine.

Fourth best do. do.—A copy of Downing's Cottage Architecture.

Fifth best do. do.—A copy of the American Flower Garden Directory.

Sixth best supply—A copy of Bridgeman's Gardener's Assistant.

Discretionary premiums will be given to any additional articles in this department, which may be deemed by the Committee as entitled to special notice.

Fresh supplies of Flowers will be thankfully received on the morning of each day of the Exhibition.

FRUITS.

For the best and greatest variety of Apples—Silver Medal.

Best six Table Apples—A copy of Kenrick's American Orchardist.

Best six Winter Apples—A copy of Bridgeman's Gardener's Assistant.

Best cultivated Cranberries—A copy of the American Agriculturist.

Best and greatest variety of Grapes—Silver Medal.

Best six bunches of Grapes, (foreign,)—A copy of the United States Farmer.

Best six bunches of Isabella Grapes—A copy of Gray's Practical Agriculture.

Best six bunches of Catawba Grapes—A copy of Johnson's Agricultural Chemistry.

Best six bunches other variety—A volume of the Cultivator.

Best six Nectarines—A copy of Kenrick's American Orchardist.

Best six Peaches, (freestones,)—A copy of Bridgeman's Gardener's Assistant.

Best six Peaches, (clingstones,)—A copy of Kenrick's American Orchardist.

Best and greatest variety of Pears—Silver Medal.

Best six Table Pears—A copy of Kenrick's American Orchardist.

Best six Winter Pears—A copy of Bridgeman's Gardener's Assistant.

Best six Plumbs—A Diploma.

Six second best Plumbs—A copy of Downing's Cottage Architecture.

Best six Quinces—A Diploma.

Six second best do.—A copy of Gray's Practical Agriculture.

VEGETABLES.

For the best and greatest variety of Culinary Vegetables—A Silver Medal.

Best and greatest variety of Vegetable Roots for Cattle—A Silver Medal.

Best six Blood Beets—A copy of the American Agriculturist.

Best six Sugar Beets—A copy of the United States Farmer.

Best six Mangel Wurtzel Beets—A copy of Gray's Practical Agriculture.

Best three heads of Cape Broccoli—A copy of Bridgeman's Gardener's Assistant.

Best three heads of Cauliflower—A copy of Buel's Farmer's Companion.

Best six heads of Drumhead Cabbage—A copy of Downing's Rural Architecture.

- Best six heads of Savoy Cabbage--A copy of Dana's Muck Manual.
 Best twelve Carrots for table use---A copy of the American Agriculturalist.
 Best twelve Carrots, for cattle---A copy of the United States Farmer.
 Best twelve roots of solid Celery---A copy of Johnson's Agricultural Chemistry.
 Best three Egg Plants---A copy of Bridgeman's Gardener's Assistant.
 Best peck of white Onions---A copy of Buel's Farmer's Companion.
 Best peck of silver-skinned Onions---A copy of Dana's Muck Manual.
 Best peck of red Onions---A copy of the American Agriculturist.
 Best twelve Parsnips, for table use---A copy of Gray's Practical Agriculture.
 Best twelve Parsnips, for cattle---A copy of the United States Farmer.
 Best peck of Potatoes, for the table---A Diploma.
 Second best do. do---A copy of Johnson's Agricultural Chemistry.
 Best peck of Seedling Potatoes---A Diploma.
 Second best do. do---A copy of Buel's Farmer's Companion.
 Best peck of Potatoes for cattle---A volume of the Cultivator.
 Best three Winter Pumpkins--A volume of the New Genesee Farmer.
 Best three Pumpkins for cattle---A Diploma.
 Three second best do. do---A copy of Dana's Muck Manual.
 Best twelve roots of Salsify---A copy of Bridgeman's Gardener's Assistant.
 Best six Squashes---A copy of the American Agriculturist.
 Best half peck of Tomatoes---A copy of the United States Farmer.
 Best peck of White Turnips---A copy of Johnson's Agricultural Chemistry.
 Best peck of Yellow Turnips---A volume of the Cultivator.
 Best peck of Russia Turnips, (Ruta Baga,)---A volume of the New Genesee Farmer.

Discretionary premiums will be given on Agricultural and Horticultural Productions not enumerated in the above list, if deemed worthy by the Committee.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

- For the best and greatest variety of Indian Corn---Silver Medal.
 Best 40 ears of white Indian Corn---Three volumes of the Cultivator.
 Best 40 ears of yellow Indian Corn---Three volumes of the New Genesee Farmer.
 Best bushel of Wheat---Silver Medal.
 Best bushel of Rye, do.
 Best bushel of Oats---Three volumes of the Cultivator.
 Best bushel of Barley---Three volumes of the New Genesee Farmer.
 Best bushel of Buckwheat---A copy of Buel's Farmer's Companion.

PRODUCTS OF THE DAIRY.

- For the best specimens of Butter, not less than 100 lbs---Silver Cup.
 Best specimen of Cheese, not less than 100 lbs---Silver Cup.

A discretionary premium for second best of each of the above articles.

GARDEN ORNAMENTS, IMPLEMENTS, &c.

- For the best Metal Fountain---Silver Medal.
 Best Cast Iron Vase, do.

Best specimen of Statuary, suitable for ornamenting gardens---Silver Medal.

Floral Figure, contrived so as to show maps, engravings, &c. say from 5 to 6 feet high---Silver Medal.

Best constructed Sun Dial---A Diploma.

Best Portable Engine, do.

Best Portable Pump for the garden, do.

Best cast-steel Socket Saw, suited to a handle 15 or 20 feet, for trimming trees---A Diploma.

Best cast-steel Scythe, of suitable dimensions, say 2½ feet, for use around ornamental shrubbery---A Diploma.

Discretionary premiums will be given for useful articles, such as FLOWER-POT STANDS, FRUIT BASKETS OR STANDS, GARDEN TOOLS, WIRE WORK for creeping plants, or for flower borders, &c.

PAINTINGS.

For the best Painting of Fruit---Silver Medal.

Best Painting of Flowers do.

Best Painting of Vegetables, do.

The Act of the Legislature of this State of May 5th, 1841, requires that "before any premium shall be delivered, the person claiming the same, or to whom the same may be awarded, shall deliver in writing to the President of the Society, as accurate a description of the process in preparing the soil, including the quantity and quality of manure applied, and in raising the crop, or feeding the animal, as may be, and also of the expense and product of the crop, or of increase in value of the animal, with the view of showing accurately the profit of cultivating the crop, or feeding or fattening the animal."

Trustees of the American Institute.---James Tallmadge, President; Adoniram Chandler, Wm. Inglis, John Travers, Vice Presidents; T. B. Wakeman, Corresponding Secretary; G. J. Leeds, Recording Secretary; Joseph Titcomb, Treasurer.

Agricultural Committee.---Jeremiah Johnson, Brooklyn, L. I.; Chas. Henry Hall, Harlem, N. Y.; Thos. Addis Emmet, do.; Francis Price, Weehawken, N. J.; Henry Whitney, N. Haven, Conn.; Nicholas Wyckoff, Bushwick, L. I.; Abraham Bell, N. York; John O. Choules, N. York; John A. Pool, N. Brunswick, N. J.; Edward Clark, N. York; Thos. Bridgeman, do; E. P. Prentice, Albany, N. Y.; Alex. Walsh, Lansingburgh, N. Y.; A. J. Downing, Newburgh, N. Y.; Samuel Stevens, N. York; Samuel Walker, Roxbury, Mass; W. J. Townsend, Astoria, N. Y.; J. C. Thompson, Tompkinsville, S. I.; Isaac M. Phyle, N. York.

THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its annual fair at the Bull's Head Tavern, adjoining the northern extremity of Albany, commencing Tuesday, the 27th of September next. The first day will be appropriated to the trial and examination of agricultural implements. The 28th and 29th will be devoted to the general exhibition of the above, together with every class of animals, field crops, vegetables, fruits, flowers, butter and cheese, silk, sugar, domestic manufactures, paintings and engravings of domestic animals, &c. &c. The 30th is appointed for the sale of such animals as may be offered for that purpose. The amount appropriated for premiums is about \$2,000, and the awarding committees are composed of gentlemen from the different

states of the Union, in whose intelligence, good judgment, and character, the public may place entire confidence. The place, arrangements, premiums, &c. we are certain will ensure a full attendance, not only from the citizens of this state, but from all the friends of agriculture in the neighboring states who can find leisure to attend. We think it will be a proud day for the agricultural interests of New York, and we feel grateful, as we think every good citizen ought to feel, to the executive committee, who have so fully carried out the wishes of the members of the society. We have not room for the details of stock and other premiums, but will give them summarily.

There are 12 premiums for Bulls of every breed from 1 year old and upward, the highest premium being

3 premiums for Bull Calves,*	10
38 do. every breed Cows, Heifers and Calves,	20
8 do. the best pairs of Working Cattle and Steers,	20
3 do. Fat Cattle,	20
3 do. Fat Sheep,	10
7 do. Best Stock Horses,	20
3 do. Breeding Mares and Colts,	20
3 do. 3 year old Mares,	10
3 do. Match Horses,	15
3 do. to the breeders of the best Bull, Cow and Heifer, each	10
4 do. Best Boars, 10 months old and over, highest premium,	10
4 do. Breeding Sows,	20
4 do. for each of the 3 varieties of Long Wool, Middle Wool and Short Wool Bucks, 12 in all, highest premium,	10
4 do. for a pen of 3 ewes each, of all the above varieties, 12 premiums in all,	10

FARM IMPLEMENTS.

2 or more premiums on each of the following implements:—Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, Drill Barrows, Threshing Machines, Horse Rakes, Fanning Mills, Ox Yokes, highest premium,	30
12 premiums on Cocoons, reeled and manufactured Silk,	15
2 do. Silk Reels,	10

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

5 do. Butter, not less than 80 pounds to each sample,	20
5 do. Cheese, not less than 100 do. do. do.	20

CROPS.

4 do. Best Crop Wheat and Indian Corn, each, not less than one acre,	\$15
3 do. Best Crop each of Barley, Rye, Oats, Potatoes, Beets, Ruta Bagas, Carrots and Peas, not less than one acre,	10
4 do. Maple Sugar, 50 lbs. each sample,	15
11 do. will also be awarded on FLOWERS,	5
12 do. do. FRUITS,	5
19 do. do. CULINARY VEGETABLES,	2
15 do. do. Domestic Manufactures,	5
4 do. do. HORTICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,	10

* It is to be understood when not otherwise specified, that the figures at the right hand of the column express in dollars, the highest premium only.

ESSAYS.

For the best popular Treatise on Agricultural Chemistry,	\$100
For the best Essay on Rotation of Crops adapted to this state,	20
For the best do. General Management of the Farm,	20
For the best do. Introduction of New Agricultural Products,	20
For the best do. on the management and application of Manures,	20

ARTISTS.

To the Painter of the best specimens of Original Portraits of Domestic Animals,	A Gold Medal
To the Engraver of the best specimens of Portraits of Domestic Animals on Wood,	A Gold Medal
For the best design for a Diploma for the New-York State Agricultural Society,	A Gold Medal
For the best Plan of Farm House, Barn and Out-Houses,	A Gold Medal
For the best specimens of Floral Painting,	[A Silver Medal.

The design for Diploma to be handed in to L. Tucker, Rec. Sec. July 1, 1842; all the other Designs and Essays and Statements of Field Crops, on or before January 1, 1843.

In addition to the long list above, Committees are authorised to award premiums on almost every product exhibited, either of nature or art, connected with the subjects enumerated, not specified above, if meriting one.

RULES.—All persons intending to exhibit animals must give notice to L. Tucker, Rec. Sec. before 15th September next, and stock must be on the ground before 9 o'clock, 28th.

All Plows must be sent as above previous to August 1st.

All other implements previous to 26th September.

All specimens of Butter, Cheese, Silk, &c. &c. must be sent in early on the 27th.

Statements of field Crops must be made under oath by the owner and two other persons, and the land measured by a sworn surveyor.

Claimants for premiums on Dairy Cows, Butter and Cheese, and Field Crops, must make out an accurate statement of the entire management of each. *This is one of the most important provisions in the exhibition, and we trust the Committees will specify in their reports the breed of each animal, and their peculiar excellencies.*

All premiums will be paid in cash or plate, at the option of the winners.

The premiums for Essays, Artists, and Agricultural Implements, will be open to the United States. All others will be confined to residents of this state who are, or shall become members of the Society, by entering their names and the payment of \$1, previous to entering the articles.

We notice in the vol. of Trans. of the N. Y. State Ag. Soc., for 1841, an able and condensed paper on English Agriculture, by John Hannam, Esq., of Yorkshire, which we should like to transfer to our own columns, were we not going over something of the same ground, in a more discursive way, ourselves. We notice his mention of the sale of four young sows, of the Rev. Mr. Higginson, for £75, equal to \$90 each; and three, 3 months pigs, for £45, equal to \$75 each; and we feel complimented by his

assertion, that "Mr. Allen's tour will not diminish the demand," for we had no idea that any movements of ours would be likely to affect the price of such stock in England.

We saw the above pigs, or stock of the same kind, at the Royal Agricultural Show in Liverpool, and also at the Yorkshire county show; and very beautiful they were, but not equal, as a farmer's hog, to the Berkshire. We also saw most of the other stock Mr. Hannam mentions, but suspect he is mistaken in saying that Mr. Webb had let a South Down ram, to the Duke of Richmond, for 100 gs. We spent some little time at Goodwood, the seat of the Duke, and had this been so, should have doubtless learned the fact. We presume it must have been the Duke of Newcastle that paid the hundred guineas.—See our Tour in England, No. 4, published in our last.

Tour in England. No. 5.

GREAT SHOW OF THE YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting and show of the Agricultural Society for Yorkshire was appointed for the 4th of August, and as we were informed that it would be nearly as well worth seeing as that of the Royal Society at Liverpool, we made our arrangements to attend. London is the great centre of the circle of all things in Great Britain; from it, to every point, whether north, east, south, or west, is *down*; to it, from every point of the kingdom, is *up*; it was the pivot of all our movements, our *point d'appuyer*, and one could no more think of making an arrangement in the country, except from hence, than he would of sailing to the moon from any other place than this our poor mundane sphere. We accordingly took our departure once more from this mighty Babylon of the world.

For the accommodation of that part of the public that cares for nothing but getting from one point to another in the quickest possible time we have an eminent idea of railroads; but when one is traveling to see an interesting country, or take his pleasure, they become a regular bore, longer than one of their own dark infernal tunnels, and we have at times almost made up our minds with the renowned Mr. Tony Weller "that the rail is unconstitootional, and an inwaser o' privileges—and as to the ingen—a nasty, wheezin', croaking, gasping, puffin', bustin' monster, always out o' breath, with a shiny green and gold back, like an unpleasant breth in a gas magnifier;—and the sensiblest

thing it does, is, ven ther's somethin' in the vay, it sets up that ere frightful scream, vich seems to say, 'Now, here's two hundred and forty passengers in the wery greatest hextremity o' danger, and here's their two hundred and forty screams in vun.'"

In one respect the fields of England present rather an unsightly aspect, from the circumstance that previous to underdraining being much known or practised, of their having been thrown up into beds or lands of about one rod wide, crowning high in the centre, and leaving a kind of open ditch between, to carry off the surplus waters. These beds are of the whole length of the fields, winding and tortuous in shape, and all following the same lines, give an unpleasant monotony to the landscape. Except when set to grass in meadows, where they do not wish to break them up, as fast as underdraining is introduced now, these lands are gradually getting levelled down by the plow, which greatly improves the appearance of the face of the country.

We noticed that most of the hay was put up in long ricks, and the grain in conical stacks, all carefully thatched on the top to keep out the weather. The grain stacks generally stood on four smooth chiseled pyramidal shaped stone blocks about two feet high, with a broad stone cap, which prevents the rats obtaining access to them; and if stones are not convenient to be had for this purpose, pillars of brick about two feet square, with a coping, supplied their place; but the smooth face of the stone is much to be preferred for this purpose. The advantages of stacking grain are here considered fivefold. 1. It saves the expense of barn room. 2. The danger of being destroyed by lightning. 3. It can be reaped and gathered three days sooner, which is of great importance to the husbandman in this wet and changeable climate. 4. Vermin cannot injure it. 5. It produces a plumper finer sample. These are important considerations, and we recommend them for experiment, to the attention of our own extensive grain growers in the southern and western states.

Derbyshire is the most picturesque part of England; it abounds with high broken hills crowned with precipices, brawling streams, and deep vallies, but notwithstanding these, the land is mostly under a high state of cultivation. In its fences it reminded us to some extent of portions of New England, nearly all the estates being enclosed by strong thick walls of cut stone handsomely laid up five or six feet high, the di-

vision fences of the fields of hawthorn hedge, which, contrasted with the walls in front, add much to the variety and beauty of the country. As we approached Yorkshire the hills receded, and crossing the branches of the Humber, the country became quite flat, partaking something of the same character as the fens of Lincolnshire on the opposite side, so that we lost little in the way of scenery, by night shutting in an hour or two before our arrival at Hull. As usual upon such occasions, the town was overflowing with strangers, the inns were full and not a bed to be had; but we considered ourselves rather the gainers this time by the circumstance, as we were directed to very agreeable private lodgings, where the good people did their best to make us feel at home and as comfortable as possible.

The show took place the next day on the Dock Green, close adjoining the town, and was conducted on much the same plan as that of the Royal Agricultural Society at Liverpool, save that the proceedings were pretty much all crowded into one day, and if they were not on quite so grand a scale, they were rather more sociable and equally agreeable. Plows, harrows, scarifiers, and other implements were tried in a field a short distance off in the morning, and then the cattle-yard was opened at the reasonable charge of one shilling to the public—gentlemen from foreign countries having a free ticket politely tendered them to this as well as to the dinner. There were full 350 animals present, and in horses, Short Horn cattle, and Long-woolled sheep, the show was decidedly superior to that at Liverpool; but the variety and different breeds of stock were not near as great. There were at least 120 head of Short Horns, and the most superb lot that we ever saw together, or shall expect soon to witness again, and in many cases the judges were almost at fault in deciding between the respective aspirants to their favor. Among the horses we saw hunters, roadsters, hacknies and cart-horses, all excellent animals, but we thought no way superior for our purposes to the splendid breeds that we already possess at home. The sheep generally presented an unnatural fatness that we do not admire; so also with some two or three Short Horns exhibited as fat animals; there is a bound to this sort of thing that we cannot think it profitable to pass. The swine were of two classes, one of medium size, very fine, the other large and somewhat coarse.

Many agricultural implements and seeds were at the exhibition, and some sheep net-

ting that we afterwards saw considerably in use for folding instead of hurdles, and of which we think very highly. It is as durable as hurdles, and perhaps not one twentieth part as heavy; it makes with a few stakes an equally secure fence, is handled with more ease, and of course much quicker. The cost for the best quality of tarred twine is very reasonable, cheaper than hurdles, and in case it should be wanted, we would recommend its introduction into America, though we think for our purposes it should be four instead of three feet high.

Rather over £800 (about \$4,000) were distributed in prizes on this occasion, which is liberal for a single county, although that of York is perhaps twice as extensive as any other Shire in England, and improved stock is its peculiar feature of agriculture. We don't know that our readers would feel particularly interested in having a report of all the names of the successful competitors at this exhibition, and were we to name but a few it might seem invidious; we therefore pass them over in silence.

These matters all settled we come to the dinner, and as a celebrated reader of Homer's Iliad, considered that the feasting of the heroes were the most interesting passages of this immortal epic, why should not that of the farmers of Yorkshire be the same to those of our own country, particularly as we have no new arrangement of cattle sheds, and other mighty matters to present them, other than we described in our first No. at Liverpool.

The tables being lettered, and every plate numbered, with their tickets in hand, each guest found his place without confusion, but if perchance he happened to forget himself and make a mistake, he never took the trouble of going round, but very unceremoniously leaped on to the table with one foot, and down on the opposite side with the other, to get across. As we are not particularly ambitious of becoming the Trollope or Hamilton of English "Manners," we forbear comments that will suggest themselves to our readers.

Lord Wharnclyff, the president of the Society, presided, and had to his right and left a respectable sprinkling of noblemen, knights, M. P.'s, and Esquires, among whom we noticed that steadfast and unwavering friend to agriculture, the celebrated Earl Spencer. There were 1,200 seats provided, and the tables nearly full.

We had plenty to eat of the different kinds of cold meats boiled and roasted, ham,

mutton, beef, fowls, and fish, garnished with the vegetables of the season, and each guest, if we recollect right, his bottle of wine, which by the way we did not taste, but from the particular rubicund hue of some of our neighbors' faces at table, after emptying a few glasses, we had a suspicion that it was pretty tolerably seasoned with brandy. Perhaps the caterer for the feast, thought with Dandie Dinmont, that it might otherwise prove "o'er cauld for the stomach." When the toasts and speeches had got well under way they became somewhat long in the wind, and growing impatient we absconded the dinner table, and joined what proved more agreeable to us, a private party at tea. This over and an hour of sunlight still left, we sought the zoological gardens in the suburbs of the town. Here by the side of winding walks, and amid flowers and shrubbery, were huts for elephants, rhinoceros, camels, and alpacas: caves for bears, and dens for lions, tigers, and as the bills have it, other "*amphibious* beasts" with water pools, jets d'eau, and mounds with summer houses on top, bands of music, mountebanks, and tents, where men arranged all sorts of eatables and drinkables,* and at nightfall a grand display of fireworks. Ladies, lords, and gentlemen were there, sailors, farmers, mechanics, and the peasantry of the country, with their wives and children; all ages in crowds enjoying themselves with great glee. It was the same at the show at Liverpool, only as the town was larger a greater variety of entertainments was got up for the occasion, and this is the way that agricultural fairs and shows should be conducted; then every one looks forward to them not only as meetings of instruction, but of high zest and entertainment, where all ages, sexes, and conditions, can enjoy themselves in an agreeable way. How different this we thought from those where a few men and cattle, with a half-dozen curious idle urchins get together; each staring at the other with "lack lustre eyes" a cold hour or two, and then all betake themselves off, till another year brings round the same dull unvaried show. There may be some profit in such a meeting, yet we could never think there was much zest or pleasure to it, and if the friends

* We are not sure, but think we might except ardent spirits from all the drinkables here at the gardens. At any rate, we saw no intoxication there, but every thing was orderly and well conducted; and the looks alone, of the joyful rosy faces of the laughing, healthful children present, well repaid the expense of the entertainment; and in fact, of the two, this was rather the *finest show of stock* exhibited that day to our eyes.

of agriculture ever expect to interest the great mass of the people in their improvements, they must serve up a few adjuncts with the stock, and make their meetings rather more of a gala day to the public at large.

Hull is an ancient town of some 20 or 30,000 inhabitants, the principal part of whom are enclosed by the river and a wide canal for the shipping, crossed by drawbridges. It has an extensive commerce, the most interesting item of which, to the agriculturist, is the importation of bones for manure. In the year 1839, the quantity imported into this port from foreign countries, was supposed to be 33,000 tons, and the value of bones imported into all England during the year 1837 was declared to be full \$1,200,000. Hull is famous for the birth-place and port of departure of that voracious sailor, Robinson Crusoe, the history of whose voyages, we will venture to say, has set more heads wandering than all the other story books that were ever written. We rambled up and down the streets of the old part of the town, so narrow that a corporal's guard could hardly walk abreast in them, and quite shut out the light of day by the jutting stories of the queer old houses, in search of the veritable mansion where this redoubtable hero formerly dwelt, but did not succeed in finding it. It is quite certain, if reports be credited, that many of the relics of the heroes of Waterloo have been transported here from the Netherlands to fertilize their fields. We thought it a burning shame that the poor fellows, who in that terrible struggle had offered up their life's blood on the altar of their country, should be put to such base use, but we had forgotten Hamlet's utilitarian soliloquy of,

"Imperious Cesar, dead and turned to clay,
Might stop a hole to keep the wind away."

But all flesh is grass; and all grass again, with equal truth it may be said is flesh, and had Shakspeare written in these *chemical* days, he would, most undoubtedly, have finished the stanza thus:—

Oh that the *bones* which kept the world in awe,
Should grow green turnips and bright wheaten straw;
By decomposing gelatine and oil,
Phosphates and lime, upon th' impoverished soil.

We are great friends to bone dust as a manure, and are well aware of its fertilizing qualities, and while we would enjoin upon all, to save with industrious care, the bones of the whole brute creation, we must strongly object to the graves of even a slave or beg-

gar being disturbed, much more those of the gallant soldier; and we are surprised that the government of the Netherlands should permit such a desecration; it is on that, and not the English importer, that the blame rests, admitting that the paragraphs we have often seen in the newspapers of this despoiling of Europe's great battle-field be true.

KENTUCKY FARMING.

Concluded.

SHEEP—We should be glad to see the size of the Merino a little increased by crosses with the Rambouillet; we think they would also improve the quality, as we know they would add largely to the quantity of their wool; and to make mutton, we should desire greatly the introduction of a few South-Downs. We are satisfied that it would conduce to the health of the population, if in their food they would use *more mutton*, and consume *less pork*. The former is lean, tender, and always palatable, while the latter is gross, and during hot weather, scarcely endurable to many palates. The wool of the South-Down is also as well adapted to make common clothing as the Merino, and is more easily manufactured in a domestic way. We heard it intimated while in Kentucky, that the South-Downs were not a hardy sheep; the reverse is the fact, for on the high hills of the western counties of New York, where the thermometer frequently sinks to 20°, and even 30° degrees below Zero, and six months foddering out of the year is required, they stand the climate as well as any other breed existing. Their size and forms in England have been latterly greatly increased and improved, and it is quite common now to see them weigh from 16 to 24 lbs. per quarter dressed at one year old. For wool destined to be sold at the East, we would recommend the cultivation of none but the finer breeds, producing the best quality, and this should always be clean washed, and put up in the neatest and most compact manner, pressed, if possible, in bags as close as cotton bales. It costs no more to transport the highest priced grades of wool to market, than those of coarser qualities.

SWINE.—In these the Chinese and Berkshire have made greater and more desirable improvements than any other breeds. There are thousands still left however, of Landpikes and Alligators, and on our journey from Louisville to Frankfort, we noted among other discoveries, a touch of the *Wolf-breed*. These animals, we should judge, were culti-

vated like those of Okatka in Russia, for their *bristles alone*, for they stood staring out every way from their gaunt carcasses, full 6 inches long. We also saw a few long-legged coarse woolled sheep, that could never pay for their keep at a six months' grass pasture; scrub cattle also a few, and many of the horses with crane legs and slab sides, and seemingly totally unfit for either saddle or harness. In good roadsters, and a hardy stout active race of farm horses, we think the whole South-west greatly deficient. For these purposes they employ too many of a sort of nondescript, bred, we should judge, between a tall Dutch cart horse and light leggy racer. But these, together with some slovenly crops, outbuildings, fences, and farming, are rather ungracious matters to dwell upon, we therefore forbear.

We could not learn that any systematic course of cropping has yet been adopted in Kentucky, except by an enlightened few; too many, as in New York and elsewhere, having followed up the *skinning* and exhausting system, and then sold out and sought new regions and a virgin soil further west. This is the bane of American husbandry, and with a view of counteracting it, and putting a stop in a measure to the depleting emigration, with becoming liberality, the State Agricultural Society offered prizes for a series of papers on the best rotation of crops for Kentucky, that should embrace, at the same time, an improvement of the soil. These were won by her eminent agriculturist, the Hon. Adam Beatty, and published in the fourth and fifth vols. of the *Kentucky Farmer*; and we would recommend a close and careful perusal of them to all who wish to benefit and improve themselves in the science of agriculture.

On a farm of 300 acres, 75 of which are reserved for woodland, 25 for meadow, garden, orchard, and raising hempseed, and 200 in cultivation, where *hemp is the main crop*, Mr. Beatty recommends the following division and rotation of twelve years, in four fields of 50 acres each.

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.
1841	Corn	Clover	Rye	Hemp
1842	Rye	Corn	Clover	Hemp
1843	Clover	Rye	Corn	Hemp
1844	Corn	Clover	Rye	Hemp
1845	Rye	Corn	Clover	Hemp
1846	Clover	Rye	Corn	Hemp
1847	Hemp	Clover	Rye	Corn
1848	Hemp	Corn	Clover	Rye
1849	Hemp	Rye	Corn	Clover
1850	Hemp	Clover	Rye	Corn
1851	Hemp	Corn	Clover	Rye
1852	Hemp	Rye	Corn	Clover

In this rotation it is contemplated that the clover shall be pastured till the rye is ripe, the stock then be removed to this, and the second crop of clover be allowed to grow up and ripen, to be ploughed under late the same fall, or early in the winter for the succeeding crop of hemp.

In a rotation of a tobacco crop, the same writer suggests, that 30 acres be set apart for this purpose, in three fields of 10 acres each, with the following eight years rotation.

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
1811	Tobacco	Clover	Clover
1812	Tobacco	{ Clover plowed up in fall. }	Clover
1813	Oats & Clover	Tobacco	Clover
1814	Clover	Tobacco	{ Clover plowed up in fall. }
1815	Clover	Oats & Clover	Tobacco
1816	{ Clover plowed up in fall. }	Clover	Tobacco
1817	Tobacco	Clover	Oats & Clover
1818	Tobacco	{ Clover plowed up in fall. }	Clover

The oats, he remarks, are sowed the first year, to prevent the growth of weeds. They should not be allowed to ripen their seeds, as this would exhaust the ground, but as soon as in flower, a heavy bush or roller must be dragged over them, thus prostrating the straw upon the field to decay and enrich it.

When wheat is intended as the main crop, a writer in the Kentucky Farmer, vol. 4, recommends dividing a farm of 200 acres into eight fields, and the rotation thus—

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.
1811	Fallow	Corn	Rye	Wheat
1812	Wheat	Fallow	Corn	Rye
1813	Clover	Wheat	Fallow	Corn
1814	Wheat	Clover	Wheat	Fallow
1815	Clover	Wheat	Clover	Wheat
1816	Wheat	Clover	Wheat	Clover
1817	Rye	Wheat	Clover	Wheat
1818	Corn	Rye	Wheat	Clover
	No. 5.	No. 6.	No. 7.	No. 8.
1811	Clover	Wheat	Clover	Wheat
1812	Wheat	Clover	Wheat	Clover
1813	Rye	Wheat	Clover	Wheat
1814	Corn	Rye	Wheat	Clover
1815	Fallow	Corn	Rye	Wheat
1816	Wheat	Fallow	Corn	Rye
1817	Clover	Wheat	Fallow	Corn
1818	Wheat	Clover	Wheat	Fallow

To the above, many would add woodland pastures for their stock, and the cultivation of other grains, and more roots than are here set down in division for rotations. We add no suggestions of our own, as we are promised them by those better qualified than we are to give them, viz. the able writers of Kentucky themselves. We were there as a scholar, not as a teacher, and we will frankly say, from what we saw during our limited

stay there, that we do not see how the system of cropping and stock raising can be much improved, as practised by her most enlightened planters. The only suggestions that occur to us just now are, that we think it would be beneficial to introduce a system of draining, where the lands are too level, heavy, and wet; and again that of irrigation where springs and streams can be found of sufficient elevation to lead them along over the land. In so dry a climate, by proper irrigation, the products, especially in grass, may be easily doubled.

The great thoroughfares of the State are well McAdamized, making it a pleasure to travel over them at all seasons of the year. Some railroads have been attempted, but we believe all, except the one leading from Frankfort to Lexington, are now abandoned. We rejoice at this, for they are totally unsuited to any country, except to link large populous places, between which there is an immense travel. A railroad only accommodates a particular set, while a McAdam benefits all within its reach, and is especially to be preferred in an agricultural district. Nor need the travel on it be so much slower as is generally believed. We talk about railroads of the United States averaging 25 miles an hour, whereas they hardly come up to 15 miles the hour, and with well selected horses, and adopting lighter vehicles, and limiting the passengers to six inside, with three out, 8 or 9 miles an hour, except in the hottest weather, may be comfortably averaged by the stage coaches. Then there is the advantage of having a good road open to the private carriage, the horseman, pedestrian, farm wagon, and droves of stock bound for distant markets.

In addition to the wild mountain scenery of Kentucky, all have heard of its mammoth cave. Innumerable smaller ones also exist, bold precipices are scattered here and there, while many of its streams flow off through deep gorges, surmounted by high bluff banks. Ranges of sharp conical hills, interspersed with those of a more gentle and rounded form rise around, and give variety to the landscape, and even the most level plains are generally sufficiently rolling to carry off all surplus waters. Springs occasionally ooze out of the beds of limestone along this rolling country, but upon the whole there is rather a scarcity of water on their richest and most level lands. This is obviated in a measure by damming up the rivulets, and excavating ponds, but during very dry seasons they suffer for want of water and some are

even obliged to drive their stock short distances to be kept by the side of larger streams, till a further supply of rain.

Many of the plantations are beautiful, and strongly fenced in with high stone walls, where the material exists for forming them, or in their absence, neat posts and rails, or the Virginia fence is substituted. The family mansion is usually of brick or stone, and placed on rising ground, as near the centre of the plantation as possible. They are generally of fine architecture, with porticos and pillars, or piazzas in front. But those we most admired are of the cottage form, flanked with buttress-like chimnies, built up outside, that detract nothing from their neatness of appearance, but add greatly to their strength and massiveness. Hard by, and frequently surrounding it, is a noble park of forest trees, while evergreens are grouped here and there, together with tasteful shrubs, enclosed by neat palings, large grass plots spread out in front, chequered by gravelled walks, adorned with flowers, while in the rear is seen the well-stocked garden. From thence the private road leads to the main public one, and spring gates open from field to field, over which, on a high spirited horse, it is an exciting luxury to take a hand gallop.

The people of Kentucky are warm-hearted, and very hospitable; with a frank, open, liberal manner about them, that puts the stranger immediately at his ease, and makes his stay among them pleasant and agreeable. We hope to renew our visit during the period of shows and fairs during some autumn, when we can see its superb stock to proper advantage. We intend to give more particular notices when we visit it hereafter, and now close these general remarks, by expressing our obligations for the hospitality and attentions that were so liberally extended us, during our visit to this noble state.

SUGGESTIONS for the Regulation of Premiums given by Agricultural Societies, and manner of judging by the Committees of Awards.—As there are great varieties of soil and climate, and as animals, seeds, roots and manufactures are wanted for different purposes, and though quite unlike, each one may be the best adapted for the particular purpose for which it was formed, they ought to be arranged in different classes, and judged, not against each other, but by themselves independently, according to those different qualifications. In exhibitions, therefore, of agricultural societies hereafter, we beg leave

respectfully to suggest the following divisions and classifications:—

HORSES we would divide into three classes.

Class 1st. The horse best fitted for the saddle and cavalry purposes, that should show a pedigree without stain from the stud book.

Class 2d. Roadsters, uniting in them the best carriage, and as good saddle qualities in addition, as could be found.

Class 3d. The best farm and draught horse, taking into consideration his adaptation to the business of cartmen in our cities. To match or single geldings we would simply award diplomas of three different degrees, according as they stood in rank, for these would stamp the animals with an extra value, which would be sufficient to pay for the trouble and expense of exhibition, aside from the probable opportunity of making a sale, when this was desirable, by the exhibitor.

ASSES, one class only, as their merits in this country depend entirely on producing the largest and finest stock for the draught.

MULES also, one class, as they are rarely used among us, except for the draught, and as beasts of burthen.

CATTLE should be divided into six classes.

Class 1st. **SHORT HORNS**, as they are supposed to possess, in a more eminent degree than any other breed, a combination of those qualities that will produce the most beef and milk for the food consumed. A herd book pedigree in these ought to be required to entitle them to an exhibition.

Class 2d. **HEREFORDS**, as they are considered the most powerful breed in the yoke, are excellent beef, and occasionally good milkers.

Class 3d. **AYRSHIRES**, as on lighter soil and thinner pasture, they stand in the same relation to other breeds that the Short Horns do to Herefords.

Class 4th. **DEVONS** and **SUSSEX**, being admirable also for light soils, as the Herefords are for heavy ones; and some families, especially among the South Devons, are known to be first-rate milkers.

Class 5th. Any *native* bred animal, no matter what the cross might be, provided it was but one of the pure bred animals as above, the best adapted for beef, milk, and the yoke on rich soils.

Class 6th. Any *native* bred animal with the same qualifications as the last mentioned, the only difference being the best fitted for a more sterile country.

SHEEP should be divided into four classes.

Class 1st. Those raised for fine wool, and

in judging of this, quantity produced, form, constitution, size, and mutton qualities of the animal should be taken into consideration.

Class 2d. The South Devon, as their mutton is superior for the table, their wool easily manufactured in a domestic way, and sufficiently fine for all family purposes, besides being an active hardy sheep.

Class 3d. Should embrace all the long-woolled varieties, such as the Bakewell or Leicester, Lincoln, Cotswold, and New Oxford.

Class 4th. Any native bred sheep that shall possess the best combinations of wool and mutton, size, thrift and constitution for the particular locality where bred.

SWINE, we think, ought to be divided into two classes.

Class 1st. Any breed that it could be shown would fat 250 to 300 lbs. or more at the age of 9 or 10 months; or 600 to 700 lbs. at 18 or 20 months age.

Class 2d. Any breed that would attain half the weights of the above or more, at the same ages; of course, quality of meat, fineness of point, and easiness of keep in the animal exhibited would rule the judgments given, after the ages and weights were ascertained. The reasons for dividing these animals are, that larger and smaller are wanted for different purposes, and the smaller class can be grown up mostly on the grasses and coarse herbage, while the larger ones would require heavier food, such as grain mixed with vegetables.

In Dairy products there should be only one class for butter, but cheese may with propriety be divided into two or three, such as cream cheese for the first, new milk for the second, and perhaps we may suggest, skim-milk for the third, as it is a kind that may be produced in certain localities, where the milk could not be applied to any other purpose so profitably.

The domestic Fowls have always been entirely overlooked, but how largely do they contribute to the food of our tables; we would therefore suggest, that premiums be awarded to them, for they are by no means a small matter in agricultural products. In these we would recommend three classes at least.

Class 1st. The Bucks County fowl of Pennsylvania, the Malay, the Spanish, the Dorking, the Java, and any other large sizes.

Class 2d. The Poland and other medium sizes.

Class 3d. Bantams, &c. Fertility in producing eggs, delicacy of meat, hardiness of

the bird, easiness of keep, and good shape, should be the rules of preference.

Fat animals of any kind, such as cattle, sheep and swine, might perhaps with propriety, be limited only to diplomas; for their meat, in consequence of their being prize animals, would generally bring enough extra to pay for the trouble and expense of exhibition.

All grains, grasses, and roots, ought to be classified by themselves, for every one knows, that certain kinds of wheat, corn, barley, peas, beans, roots and grasses, suit different soils and climates; it would be a great error, therefore, to judge one against the other. For instance, we will suppose that the state societies of Virginia and Ohio, offer but one premium on corn. Now the mountainous and lake regions of these states require an entirely different grain for their respective soils and climates, than suits the rich alluvions of the lower Potomac and James rivers, and the wide bottoms of the Sciota and Miami.

We make no suggestions about articles of domestic manufacture, as they will come in as a matter of course, and to these we would add sweetmeats, jellies, and other knick-knacks, for the purpose of more particularly interesting the ladies. These things have a due share of attention with the societies at the south, and certainly it would be a great privilege to be placed on such a committee. Where ladies would be the best judges, they ought to form the committees exclusively.

Every thing shown for premiums ought to be on the ground a sufficient time previous to the day of exhibition, to give the different committees an opportunity of carefully arranging, examining, and making their awards. After which, large cards should be hung up over them, proclaiming their awards, so that all could look at them, and at once know for themselves, without further questioning, which they were.

We now come to a very important suggestion—it has been asserted that committees as heretofore formed, were little better than secret conclaves, whose reasons for their decisions were just as impenetrable as those of the Venetian Senate or Spanish Inquisition; and very many have consequently declined exhibiting, till they can publicly know by what principles their animals or manufactures are judged. For these reasons we would respectfully suggest, that on the second day of the exhibition, the chairman of each committee mount the rostrum, the animal or manufactured article be brought

out before the public, and then the explanations for their decisions be set forth at large.

We are free to assert, that there can never be any general fixed scientific improvements made till such a course is adopted; and if a member of any committee has not sufficient confidence in his knowledge and judgment, and the moral courage to proclaim the same publicly and his reasons therefor, he is undeserving a place on that committee. What a school would this be to the rising, and aye to much of the risen generation. A person might learn more by attending one such day's exhibition and explanation, than from studying books, and plates, and animals, unaided by the opinions of others, for a month.

As awards are now managed, they become as variable as the wind. What was declared to be best yesterday, is denied to-day, and both subverted to-morrow; while, perhaps, on a fourth exhibition, the first may again come uppermost; and all this without the slightest enlightenment and explanation to the public. All, therefore, but the few who stand aloof with superior knowledge are at a loss, and left to grope in the dark, without chart or compass to steer by.

SUMMER DRINKS.—*A short chapter on Eating and Drinking in hot weather.*—We can well recollect the time, as the haying and harvesting season approached, it was deemed necessary, in every well-supplied farmhouse, to send "to town," or the village store, and lay in a demijohn or keg of old Jamaica, Santa Cruz, New England, cider brandy, or rye whisky, to help through these severer labours of the farm. Alcohol, in some shape, was deemed indispensable by the greater part of the farmers. Occasionally a man was found far in advance of the age, who avoided it altogether, regarding it with no more favor than the most inveterate reformer of the present day. One of these we well remember, whose ready wit, and fund of anecdote, and always social and humorous spirit, afforded amusement and instruction to many a childhood hour, who lived till he was 96; and another, our always active and indefatigable parson, still in vigorous health and the performance of his clerical duties, is close verging upon 90. These were strictly temperance men, never touching ardent spirits on any pretence. But there is no necessity for us to urge the injurious effects of resorting to alcohol. The spirit of reform has preceded us, and every intelligent man would as soon think of supplying himself or workmen with foot

stoves or pea-jackets for haying, as any liquid of which alcohol formed a part; yet a suitable provision must be made for the excessive labors that are required during the hottest portion of the year.

As a preliminary to what is required for drinks, we would suggest some remarks as to what is required for food; as by properly adapting this to the season, we may very much lessen the quantity of drink required, even during the greatest exposure to heat and labor. And the first thing we would suggest, is to lessen the quantity of meat generally used during hot weather. The appetite does not crave or relish much meat in summer, and it is a great provocative of thirst; and whatever is used should be plainly cooked, not too highly salted or spiced. A larger share of light food should be substituted for meat, than is generally used in summer; and, for this purpose, a well-stocked vegetable garden will afford a great variety of wholesome, palatable, and nutritious dishes, when skilfully prepared. There are numberless forms, also, in which milk, and fruit, and berries may be used, in the various combinations a skilful housewife so well knows how to prepare, which are far more tempting to the weary man than the solid and constantly repeated dishes of meat, meat, meat. The excessive use of hearty and solid food was not common among many of the hardest nations of antiquity—as the Greek and Roman; nor even among our English ancestors of the middle and later centuries. Tusser, who wrote nearly 300 years ago, in alluding to the ordinary food of farmers, says, "No spoon meat, no bellyful laborers think;" and it was not till the cold weather of the approaching Christmas they could indulge with impunity in the medley of the *gourmand*.

Good bread and good drink, a good fire in the hall,
Brown pudding and *souse*, and good mustard withal,
Beef, mutton, and pork, shred pies of the best,
Pig, *real*, goose, and *cupon*, and turkey well drest.

It is a mistaken notion that there is not *strength enough* in any other food to work by. We once knew a man win a wager in a three days' job at mowing, and his only food was Indian pudding and milk; though of this he had a full supply, and took it as often as he chose. The example of Franklin is familiar, who, living on his plain biscuit or bread and a handful of raisins, and drinking only water, could yet do more presswork than the strongest of his beef-eating, beer-drinking companions. An Indian will take his pouch of parched corn, and, with this and water only, he will perform a journey that would tire out

successively any two or three of our hardest laborers. The Arab, with his camel's milk, and the wild Cossack of the steppes of Central Asia, on mare's milk, will endure fatigue which would exhaust the most inveterate beef and pork eater. Notwithstanding these examples, we are decided advocates for the use of meat in moderate quantities, but are satisfied there is altogether too much of it used in this country, either for health, economy, or comfort. Though inflexible advocates for three regular meals a day, under ordinary circumstances, we are satisfied when the breakfast is taken early in the morning, and supper late in the evening, hard-working men require a lunch between meals. This should be light in quality; not meat, or hearty cake, or other rich food; but simple bread and butter, or something light and easy of digestion and moderate in quantity, and so timed that it shall leave a good appetite for the regular meals. With the lunch, a moderate quantity of drink should be taken, and hardly any will be required at any other time. It is much better when the stomach is empty and craves something, to take a cracker, or some bread and cheese, and a light draught of some liquid, than to attempt to satisfy the craving entirely with drink of any kind, unless it be milk, which is itself a food. Excessive drinking weakens and disorders the stomach, and should never be indulged in; and if the proper kinds of food be used, it will not be craved. A little self-denial or discipline will do much to lessen the desire for drink. Some never drink except with meals, and not being accustomed to this indulgence, find no inconvenience in doing without; but we deem such a habit hardly possible with the excessive perspiration to which laboring men are frequently subject.

But to the kinds of drink. After excluding alcohol in all its various shapes and disguises, whether ardent spirits, wine, strong beer, or cider, and we would add, strong tea and coffee, the last of which we deprecate as especially injurious to the stomach and nervous system, we would allow the taste or convenience of each to select for himself. Of water, pure, unadulterated, unmixed water, might be said, as the primitive legislators of Connecticut said of the Bible,—they would use the laws of God till they found time to make something better. Like air and light, it is of universal prevalence, and with these and all other works of their great Author, it is best suited to answer the general purposes of its creation. An addition to it, however, may

be made, and perhaps with advantage, of ground ginger, vinegar, and molasses. We have used this beverage during summer for the last few years, with a large number of hands, and never found any inconvenience from it. It is better to stand two or three hours, or longer, after mixing; and water should in no instance be drunk immediately after being taken from the spring or well, especially if the person be warm. When heated, and it is desirable to drink immediately, a stream of water poured on the wrists or palms of the hands, will soon reduce the temperature so that one can drink with impunity. Successive mouthfuls of cold water, held in the mouth till it becomes warm and thrown out again, will mitigate thirst, reduce the heat of the body, and can never do injury to the stomach. When water is impure, such as is taken from stagnant ponds or filthy streams, or charged with mineral substances, as is much of it which the occupants of new lands are obliged to use, it *should invariably be boiled*; and if then insipid, may be mixed with milk, sugar, vinegar, or jellies from some of the fruits and berries which the careful housewife may supply for this purpose, with little trouble to herself, and great comfort to her household. Light beers, as ginger beer, mild hop and root beer, are economically made, palatable, not injurious, and within every one's reach. We give some original receipts in this present number, of such as are without objection. But of all the forms of drink, we consider milk, with which every farmhouse is or ought to be abundantly supplied, mixed with water, one of the most wholesome. When it does not agree with the stomach, boiling will usually render it acceptable. Oatmeal mixed with water, and allowed to remain a few hours, is a long-practised and favorite Scotch beverage, grateful to the palate, and invigorating and bracing to the stomach.

The above are brief hints, hurriedly thrown together, and may be enlarged upon by each person for himself; but if strictly followed out, we will agree to pay for every lost day, and doctor's bill, incurred in consequence of practising them.

FARMING TOOLS.—There seems to be a *fashion* among the manufacturers of farmers' implements, that varies from time to time, not simply in the form and style of the article, but in the quality and durability also. These changes occur to such an extent, as sometimes seriously to incommode the farmer.

And it is observable not only in the more complicated instruments whose character for utility is not fully established or generally acknowledged, as in some of the mowing and thrashing machines, but with those of the simplest construction and of universal use. We have, for instance, found it for two seasons past almost impossible to procure at the western extremity of this state, a well-constructed durable hoe, rake, pitchfork, or basket. Here are utensils that almost any mechanic can make, in use for thousands of years, and of absolute necessity, and yet not to be found of a proper kind in an extensive market. There are an abundance of the articles, to be sure, such as they are, and cheap enough,—for no one could object to the price; but being, like Pindar's razors, made only to sell, are so utterly useless to any but the manufacturer and merchant, as to leave it very questionable whether a person could not do almost as well without as with them.

This vexatious condition of the tool market is, to a great extent, owing to the farmers themselves, who, in their eagerness to get things cheap, carry the principle so far, at last, as to get such as are utterly valueless. Axes, shovels, and spades, cradling and other scythes, are articles that subject the workman to so much less labor when good ones are used, that, for many years, by universal consent, only the best, *the very best*, would be tolerated; and it is no difficult matter to find, in every market, such as are made on the best principles, and of the best and most durable materials. The others, by almost as universal consent, have been allowed to deteriorate to a point beyond endurance. The only remedy we suggest, and it is a sufficient one, is for farmers to buy only the best, and give such prices as will enable the manufacturer to make a fair profit from them: the inferior he ought never to buy, if furnished at one-fourth the price of good ones. In this way he will always secure a supply of such as may be depended on. We need not add, that every farmer should always see that he has tools enough, and always in order, and always at hand, that time should not be lost in finding or putting them in order, when he ought to be at work with them. More time frequently is lost by borrowing twice of a neighbor, than would suffice to purchase the article, to say nothing of the loss and inconvenience to them, which is an item not to be overlooked by men of even moderate honor and integrity. Money cannot be put to better interest than in a surplus stock of good tools, if kept properly housed

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

To T. B. Stevenson, Esq., of Frankfort, for bound vols. 1st and 2d, of the Kentucky Farmer. This has always been a favorite work with us, and the two first vols. being out of print, we esteem the present of them on the part of the editor, very highly. We regret exceedingly to learn that it is now discontinued for want of patronage sufficient to pay the printer. Mr. Stevenson would never receive any remuneration whatever, as editor, and notwithstanding other onerous duties demanding his time and attention, with a high-souled love of the cause, and the hope of his doing his country some good, he volunteered to conduct this work gratis, and 5 vols., through as many years of labor, attest the value of his services.

To Charles Foster, Esq., publisher of the Western Farmer and Gardener, at Cincinnati, the two first bound volumes. This work is better illustrated with engravings from Mr. Foster's own pencil, than any other agricultural publication that we know of in the United States, and having turned its attention to southern as well as western products, its correspondence is greatly enlarged, its patronage increased, and we are glad to notice the 3d vol. going on with renewed spirit and success. We will gladly accept the agency of it, and take pleasure in offering it to our friends.

To Mr. Beltshover, near Pittsburgh, of some of the tallest rye we have ever seen. It measured over 9 ft. high, and the heads are large and well-filled, and we are informed it was a fair specimen of the crop of the entire field. Such a crop would gratify a Mississippian fresh from a bear hunt in a cane brake.

From several friends we have specimens of rice, sugar cane, and a variety of Southern products. We hope, with the assistance of the able correspondence promised at the South and West, to give the cultivation of these articles a due interest in this paper hereafter.

Dr. Tegarden has engaged to forward us, next winter, a box of roots of the grass *Herba Hispania*, with some other Southern products, which we shall distribute among our Long Island and New Jersey friends, with a view to their cultivation in this latitude; and, in the mean time, if any of our correspondents at the north have already experimented on this or similar products, we shall be glad to hear from them.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

For the American Agriculturist.
Southern Agriculture.

Mississippi City, May 16th, 1842.

GENT:—Having been favored with the perusal of the first number of your useful work, which invites any correspondence that may prove valuable to agriculture, and in developing the resources of our extensive Union, I take the liberty of giving you a partial account of this section of country and its products. The whole extent of the Mexican Gulf Coast, from Pearl River to Mobile, is a sandy pine woods country, and generally for one to two miles from the sea, the land is entirely sand for the first or upper strata which is from four to six feet deep. The sand is yellow, with a great many small particles of iron ore, with very little clay or earth of any kind below this for several feet. Indeed, so far as it has been penetrated, it is a white sand, full at all times of the purest water. This place is about equi-distant between New-Orleans and Mobile, by which, steamboats pass every day each way between those great and growing cities. In point of health no country in any clime can excel this.

This country was settled originally by the French, early in the eighteenth century, whose descendants have pretty much occupied it ever since, but seem never to have attached any importance to it in an agricultural point of view, except to raise a few fruits, which grow as if they were indigenous to the soil and climate, such as the Fig, Peach, Grape, Plum and Mulberry. In the last year or two, however, there seems to be more anxiety on the subject of agricultural improvement, and I anxiously hope the day is not far distant when this will be regarded as the most delightful and profitable agricultural region in the Union; as I am well persuaded it is the healthiest, and will yield as much for the same quantity of labor as any part of the United States, notwithstanding its great apparent poverty of soil.

My own experience is very limited, although I have been in the country four years. In the month of January, 1839, I planted 25 cuttings of a Grape, supposed to be the Burgundy, and to have originally been brought to this country more than one hundred years ago by the French. I obtained the cuttings from a vine near the old French Fort on the bay of Biloxi, 12 miles from this place. Last year those vines bore about two bushels of grapes to the vine, the bunches very large and full, color blue, and about the size of a

half ounce ball, not one faulty or bad grape to the bunch on an average. I trained the vines on a framed arbor about 8 feet high. This year the same vines are all very full, and the grapes now about half grown, and I think will yield from 3 to 10 bushels of grapes to the vine. There were many persons last year here who ate of those grapes, and universally pronounced them equal, or superior in point of flavor to any they had ever tasted. They ripen in July. My vines are now not quite three and a half years old.

I planted here at the same time, about 25 cuttings of the large Blue and small Yellow Figs, all of which bore a good crop last year, and are now full of fruit. The first crop is now ripe, and they will continue now to yield fruit in abundance until frost, about the 10th to 25th of November. Each tree will yield this year from 3 to 6 bushels of Figs, the fruit very delicious and nutritious, and last over six months fresh off the trees. A neighbor here sold, at 6 1-4 cents per doz., sufficient figs off one tree of the large blue kind, in the year 1838, to yield him \$37.

The cherry, pear, and apple do tolerably well here. The dewberry ripens here the 10th of April, and is now nearly gone. They grow in great abundance on the sand beach and about all old fields, and are a delicious fruit; either to eat as gathered, or with sugar and sweet milk, or for pies, or to make cordial. The strawberry does well here, and yields two crops; one the last of March and first of April, and the other in July. The huckleberry grows all over the woods in this country, and ripens in May and June. The blackberry grows well, and ripens here in June. The ju-jube fruit, of which the cough paste of that name is made, grows and bears well here, and is a fine fruit. The quince and plum does well here as perhaps in any climate. The various kinds of mulberry grow very rapidly here, on the poorest spots, and yield an abundance of delicious fruit, and they are now ripe. There is no soil or climate that yields more or better water-melons, cucumbers, musk-melons, squash, or cymilins, okra, black-eyed peas, Lima or butter beans, bunch beans, egg plants, tomatoes. The sweet potatoe does well; also, the ground or gouber pea, rice, and the Irish potatoe, if planted in December and manured with lime.

The olive has been fairly tested by a very enterprising intelligent French gentleman, Mr. Debuys, at Biloxi, 10 miles from here, who says it grows faster and yields better than in France, and he believes it could be

raised on this coast sufficient to produce all the olive oil consumed in the United States. I am indebted to Mr. Dupuys for my knowledge of the ju-jube also, who has several bearing, as well as many other choice fruits not mentioned. The pomegrante yields very abundantly here. The orange and lemon are bearing in many places along the coast, but not in large quantities, as they would require here some attention when our winters are very severe.

The great reason why this country has made but little progress in agriculture, is owing to the fact that the population has been very sparse, and the whole country covered with grass that supplied plenty of cattle and sheep, both winter and summer, sufficient for food, and a great many to sell in the New-Orleans and Mobile markets. The fish and oysters in great abundance on the sea shore, and about the bogs and tide water bayous where our people mostly reside, supply us with a great portion of our food; as also, much game—turkeys, deer and bear, in the woods, with wild geese, ducks, and a variety of sea fowl about our coasts. The articles of cord wood, charcoal, and tar, being easily obtained, are sent to the New-Orleans market, and bread stuffs and other articles of necessity obtained and brought back as return cargo. The climate being warm, but little clothing is absolutely necessary; hence our real wants being so easily supplied without exertion, I consider the great reason why it has never been made to develop here-tofore, the agricultural resources of this country. There is an abundance of decomposed vegetable matter in and about the margins of creeks and low places, to manure the lands, and, from having tried it, I know it to be very fine. The Sea Island cotton grows finely in this country, and will yield about 160 to 200 lbs. net cotton per acre, which is very near as good a crop as the Mexican cotton on our best land in the interior of the state; and if health, comfort and cheapness of living were taken into account, is perhaps better. But the doctrine which has prevailed and made the world crazy for the last few years, of fortune making, instead of providing for a comfortable living, has been fatal to agricultural improvements to a great extent.

I have a grass here very much like the Bermuda grass, well known in Louisiana, which I brought from Guinea, on the south side of Cuba, in the year 1839, which I have tried here, and it has succeeded beyond my most sanguine expectation. I have planted it on the white sand beach, and it has grown

and covered over where it appeared impossible it could have taken root at all. It is an excellent pasture grass, and, I think, will become profitable, particularly in raising sheep in this country, although at present and for years to come, almost any quantity of sheep can be raised in the woods, without any food winter or summer, but the natural grass. The turnip I have seen as fine here as I ever saw any where, on land where cows have been penned; also, good cabbage. I have sent for the herba spagna grass seed to Italy, which Dr. Cartwright, of Natchez, a very intelligent and scientific gentleman of much experience and great practical observation, assured me would do well in this country, and raised several crops in a year, and at each crop a ton of the finest hay per acre. If this grass succeeds half equal to Dr. C's. expectations, it will add more to the wealth, real prosperity, and happiness of the country, than the turning of half our sand into gold. Another great source of wealth yet to be developed in this country is the making of spirits of turpentine, which has never yet been attempted, except merely to tap a few trees to prove that they will run as well and abundantly as those in N. Carolina; but this I do not conceive of importance, if our people would give proper attention to the cultivation of the soil, the improvement of their stocks of hogs, cattle, sheep, horses, &c. These things properly attended to, would in a few years supply abundantly all our rational wants, and would greatly improve our mental and physical energies. As for health, we have that to our heart's content.

But our country wants an addition to its population of some of those economical, prudent, intelligent and industrious farmers from the northern and eastern sections of the Union, or from Europe, to set us some good examples, and who know how to live well and comfortable without making a large crop of Indian corn. It is a hard matter for a man raised in one of our western or southern states, to live in a country when he cannot make 50 bushels of corn per acre, and that his principal crop.

Whether my hopes will ever be half realized with regard to this country, I know not, but of one thing I am confident, that is it capable of all I have said or hinted: I have attempted no fancy sketch of its merits. Although the soil is poor and sandy, indeed all sand near the sea shore, yet its products are astonishing, and I have never seen any land so poorly cultivated any where. I have never seen land that would bear a drought so

long and severe as this will, and keep vegetation in as good condition. Our land back from the sea shore is better, with a clay foundation, but it is also very poor; yet with proper cultivation and manuring will pay well. This section of country is the natural orchard and garden of New-Orleans and Mobile, and I do not despair of seeing the day it will become so in fact; and when that becomes the case, I fancy that this country will be filled with the most healthy, happy, intelligent, and really prosperous people in all that makes life delightful on the earth.

I have written you this lengthy and disconnected scrawl, not because I believed you could get any whole sentence or idea out of it worth a place in your paper, but as the editors of such a work as you are engaged in placing before the public, you may obtain some hints which may be of service to you hereafter, as I give you facts upon which to found opinions with regard to this part of our country.

Very respectfully, yours,
J. McCAUGHAN.

Mr. McC. will please take back his criticism on this letter, and accept our sincere thanks for the glowing and we doubt not, *truthful* description he has given of the immense capabilities of the United States side of the Mexican Gulf Coast.

There seems to be a difference in the *orthography* of the grass mentioned above. We take it to be the same as *Hispania* in our last.

Perhaps Mr. Tegarden of New-Orleans, could furnish this seed. One of the great advantages of a general circulation of agricultural papers, is affording information to every section of the country in seeds and improvements which otherwise might remain unknown for years.

For the American Agriculturist.
Saxon Sheep.

GENT:—I was much gratified to peruse the first numbers of the Am. Agriculturist, and hail this accession to Am. Agricultural literature with great pleasure, from a conviction that its object is to improve the agriculture, and, consequently, the condition of the farmers. This, the most numerous and the most industrious class of inhabitants, had formerly but few periodicals devoted to the improvement of their profession; but it is most gratifying to perceive how rapidly they have increased in number, and improved in character and usefulness. When I look back, only fifteen years, to the period when I first settled in this country, there were then, if my memory serves me right, but two agricultural papers published in the U. S.,—the N. E. Farmer, and the Balt. Am. Farmer. But how many are there now? I have not been able to keep

up with them, they are so numerous. To the question, whether they have improved the agriculture of the country, the answer is universally in the affirmative. Ought not, then, every farmer to take an agricultural paper? Undoubtedly. And if he reads, and reflects, and practices upon the many useful hints, my word for it, it will make him a better farmer. For myself, I can say that I have been much benefitted by them, and would not forego the pleasure of reading them for four times their annual subscription price.

I have, at different times and on different occasions, given my views and experience in sheephusbandry to the public, scattered through the columns of the Cultivator, Gen. Farmer, N. E. Farmer, Mr. Colman's fourth report of the agriculture of Mass., and in the Transactions of the New York State Ag. Soc., to which I beg leave to refer your readers. But, as the subject is a very extensive one, I was only able to touch upon the most important features, and left detail for some future time. I am, however, convinced that understanding and *practising* the detail makes in a great measure the successful shepherd,* and that the want of this understanding and practice, is one great reason why so many are unsuccessful. There are many small things to be attended to, which, separately, appear to the superficial observer trifling, but which, nevertheless, are very important. Take for instance a lot of young sheep, lambs or yearlings, and neglect them only a couple of weeks, late in the fall or beginning of winter, and it takes several months of extra care and extra feed to recover from the check; and if they do not receive this extra attention, three chances to one, many of them will die before spring, especially if it should happen to be a hard winter. I have adverted to this subject on a former occasion, but cannot omit pressing it again upon the minds of my brother farmers. I have seen many a flock that "look full and eat well", an expression which is often used, and the owners thought all was right, but, on examination, I discovered that all was not right, and that the sheep were running down, and if perchance the breath of life was kept in them, nearly a winter's growth was lost. Nor is this all. The quantity of wool is less, nor is the quality so good for manufacturing purposes; and though it may apparently possess a greater degree of fineness, the fact nevertheless is that it is deficient in *strength and elasticity*, consequently in the felting properties, and it does not make so du-

* A most important suggestion, not only as to sheep, but all animals, crops, &c.—Eos.

rable a fabric as healthy wool; and I have been assured that it does not take colors in such perfection. In Germany this subject seems to be well understood, and the growers' aim is to keep their sheep in thriving condition, produce healthy wool, and meet the views of the manufacturer. And to this, in connexion with the art of dying, (I ought to say science of dying, for in a German woollen factory a dyer has got to have a good chemical education, to understand the composition of colors.) it is probably owing that the German cloths excel in fastness of colors. Ought not, then, every farmer to keep his sheep, for his own benefit as well as that of others, always in thriving condition?

With regard to the weight of my animals and fleeces, I would say, that I weighed my heaviest Saxon ram on the morning when he was shorn, with his fleece on, and his weight was 144lbs. He is in fine condition, and I think when he gets his full growth, with good keeping, he will weigh between 154 and 160lbs., and shear not less than 7 1-2lbs. wool. Three other rams, of which one is a two-year old, weigh from 110 to 128lbs.; they were well kept through the past winter, better than the rest of my flock. I have several yearling rams which can be made to weigh 160lbs.; and I have known, in Germany, pure Saxony Merino rams attain a weight of 180 to 190 and even 200lbs., and yield from 9 to 10lbs. of fine wool at a clip. The sheep, however, from which they were raised, were always in good condition, thus affording plenty of nourishment to the lambs from the beginning. I have known their fat wethers, four-years old, average between 20 and 25lbs. per quarter, and shear 4 to 5lbs. of fine wool per head. An uncle in Germany, who keeps a flock of between 3000 and 4000 sheep, some years since fattened 400 wethers which averaged 22lbs. per quarter, and sheared 4 1-4lbs. wool of eleven months' growth, which sold for one rix dollar per lb. Two high grade Saxony wethers, three-years old past, were killed in an adjoining town in September last; their live weight was 145 and 140lbs., and their carcasses 95 and 92lbs., with no other feed but grass, but of this they had always an abundance.

You see, from this, that with good keeping the Saxony Merino may be brought to attain a good weight. They are a fine-boned animal, have an aptitude to fatten, and possess all the elements to make them as useful as can reasonably be desired, and there is no need of intermixing foreign blood. If they do not attain as large a weight of carcass as

some other breeds of sheep, it must be borne in mind that they are smaller consumers, and yield a wool of far superior quality. I really believe there is a prejudice against them not well-founded in fact; and when they are rightly dealt by and justice done them, it will be found that they are the most desirable sheep for the American farmer, and will ultimately prove of greater benefit to the country than any other breed.

About a year ago I travelled through the state of Ohio, and was surprised at the small number of fine sheep that are kept there. That state has advantages for keeping sheep, especially in the southern parts, which New England and the state of New York have not. Mildness of winter, and abundance and cheapness of feed, enable the farmer there to keep at least two sheep where but one can be kept in this region. The difference is even greater than that. A friend of mine, who purchased a small flock of me and took them to the centre of that state in 1837, informed me that the expense of keeping them was about fifty cents per head a-year. This I should think a pretty correct estimate. Produce is low; corn from 14 to 18 cents per bushel. I do not know of any stock it could be fed to at so much profit. Many sheep farmers in this region buy corn at 50 to 60 cents per bushel, and have found their account in it. I saw the little flock in question in the month of May, and found they had improved in size, and quantity of wool, averaging over 3 1-2lbs. per head. I have no doubt that an average of 4lbs. of fine wool may be obtained from them in a few years more. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. D. GROVE

Buskirks Bridge, Renselaer Co., N.Y.,
July, 1842.

With the above letter Mr. Grove sent us 29 samples of Saxon wool, which we may safely pronounce *unsurpassed* by any in the world. A friend to whom we showed them exclaimed at once, they were *cocoons*; and we think the silk worms will have to take up another link in their spinning tubes to keep ahead of Mr. Groves' sheep. Mr. G. who is a native of Germany, and familiar with Saxon sheep from childhood, is generally known as having imported the best animals of this breed ever brought into this country, having through his friends access to the choicest Electoral flocks. *And they have not depreciated in his hands*, for he is unquestionably one of the most accurate and intelligent wool growers this country contains. We hope to see his flock before our next number goes to press, and speak personally of their merits, as well as some other choice flocks we have in our eye.

Mr. Grove has a few sheep for sale, which intelligent wool growers would do well to secure for the improvements of their own flocks, *for it is easier and cheaper to raise good wool than poor.*

Mr. G. will excuse us for adding some further information respecting his flock in a private note accompanying the above.

Inclosed I send you a few samples of Wool from some of my sheep;—they were taken promiscuously. I could have picked finer samples, but the inclosed are about a fair representation. The average weight of fleece this year is 2 lbs. 14 ounces of clean Wool per head—no grown wether, (only 10 yearlings,) 5 rams; the remainder were ewes and lambs. My sheep were kept very short last summer and winter also, on account of scarcity of food. I have not lost one per cent—indeed I lost but one sheep, a ewe, which got drowned with her young lamb this spring. I believe it would have surprised you to come into my stable last winter, and seen the small quantity of food they received—there was not a haulm of hay or straw to be found in it. All was eaten clean, and I was obliged to go into the woods and haul leaves for litter. I had a pair of steelyards on my hay mow all winter; weighed the hay often; fed potatoes and grain by weight, and not unfrequently weighed straw and corn fodder. Calculating the whole to hay and the average quantity per head, per day, did not exceed one and half pounds—excepting my breeding ewes, which I commenced feeding 4 bushels of potatoes per hundred, per day, and as much hay as they would eat besides, five weeks before lambing, and I raised from them at the rate of an hundred lambs from an hundred ewes.

For the American Agriculturist.

Bokhara and Sweet Clover identical.

GENT:—I observe by your July number, that you call attention to the "Bokhara Clover," so called, by the extract you have published from the London Farmer's Mag.

Last spring, a year ago, I observed a notice of this plant in the papers of Philadelphia, stating that the stalks had been exhibited in April, thirteen inches long, and informing the public, that it was grown by a seedsman in that city, who would be able to furnish a limited quantity of the seed, in the fall, to those who might desire to have it. The name of this seedsman I have now forgotten; however I immediately wrote to a friend in the city, and requested him, by all means, to procure me such quantity as he could, and without limit as to price.

Last fall he procured for me a small package containing about one hundred seeds, for which he paid to the grower of it one dollar. Highly pleased that I had procured it, I pre-

pared a small patch in my garden this spring, and drilled the seed into it about the 1st of May. I had not long to wait for its appearance, for it soon sprouted. I was anxious to call attention to it as early as possible, and you may judge of my astonishment, when I tell you I was no little laughed at for the speculation I had made. I first pointed it to Mrs. H. She smiled and exclaimed, "That is the 'sweet clover!' we had it in my father's garden ever since I can recollect, and it abounds through the gardens of this state as a flower plant, by the name of 'sweet clover.'" I requested her to examine it particularly, which she did, again affirming it to be the same plant, and offered to procure the seed for me at the rate of sixpence the hundred grains, instead of the dollar that I had paid. Her assertion with regard to it was afterwards confirmed by many others who recognised the old plant under its new name at once. Still I was not exactly satisfied. I was not willing to believe that I had been hoaxed. This morning I received your paper from the office, and at once observed the name of "Bokhara clover." I spoke it aloud, when Mrs. H. observed, that if I would walk to a garden a short distance, I could see it in full bloom. I immediately started, and asked permission of the lady in whose garden it was, to examine her "sweet clover" plants. I had not the opportunity of seeing it in bloom, as she had very recently broken the tops off to prevent their seeding, as it was becoming a nuisance in her garden. I however examined the plants below where it was broken off, and I now can add my testimony to that of others, that "Bokhara clover," so called, is identical with what has been known in Pennsylvania and grown here, "time beyond which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," under the name of a "sweet clover."

I would not endeavor to lessen the value of the plant. I have no doubt but that it will form a valuable acquisition to the crops of field plants already in use; but I would wish to call the attention of those who can procure it easily and cheap, that the seeds may be taken care of, and instead of being permitted to go to waste, be furnished to those who wish to experiment with it in field culture.

Strip the thing of all mystery, and do not permit those who are really anxious to be in the front ranks of the "improvement army," to be imposed upon in the price of the article.

Let it be known, that the "Bokhara clover," so called, is the "sweet clover" of

Pennsylvania. The seed can be procured in small quantity, at a cheap rate, in almost every section of this country; and those who want it, need not pay, as I and several others have done, at the rate of several hundred dollars per bushel for it.

I would not wish to be understood by this communication, to be desirous to lessen the interest that has been taken in this plant. On the contrary, I would increase it. It abounds throughout our country, let all who have it within reach try it, and let the results of their labor be published, that those who have it not, may be able to see whether or not it is worth gathering.

Respectfully yours,
Jersey Shore, Pa. } J. H. HEPBURN.
July 16th, 1842. }

We are obliged to Mr. H. for his prompt notice of the "Bokhara" or "Sweet Clover." Those who are desirous of experimenting in the article, may save their "dollar for the 100 seeds," from the information communicated above. This is a specimen of the economy of taking an agricultural paper. We believe it will prove a valuable acquisition to our hay crops for the purpose of mixing with coarse fodder, as directed in our last, independent of its intrinsic value alone.

The Weeds of Agriculturists.

JULY 16TH, 1842.

GENT:--In looking over the last Cultivator, I perceive that one of their correspondents has commenced a series of communications which may prove very useful to our brethren everywhere. The design is to describe what he calls "*the weeds of agriculture*," and to suggest the means of extirpation.

This scheme has put a crotchet into my head, to try my hand at describing—not the weeds of agriculture, but those of agriculturists; for unless they can be first extirpated from our minds, it will be to little purpose for any one to tell us how we are to do with any of the kinds of weeds which infest our lands: the mental weeds will render all such information utterly useless.

In executing my project, I will endeavor to put on, at least, the appearance of some classical learning, since it is so much the fashion with writers of the present day, even when they address persons who have not a particle of it; and I shall, therefore, give your readers at least one foreign-lingo name for every mental weed I attempt to describe.

The first in my catalogue is *Inscientia*,—in plain English, ignorance, or want of knowledge. Whilst this preoccupies the field of the mind, no really useful mental plant can take root or grow therein, any more than such plants as sustain animal life can flourish in a

soil which is filled with weeds either utterly unfit to eat, or deadly poisonous. It produces intellectual blindness, a disrelish for all wholesome mental food, and an inability to distinguish the good from the bad. The method of cure is: first, thoroughly to convince the sufferer of the true condition of his mind; and then to inspire him with an anxious, abiding desire to cure himself. This is a most arduous task; but one which must be undertaken by every intelligent farmer who sincerely desires to relieve from the curse of ignorance all such of his brethren as labor under it.

The next weed in my catalogue is *Pertinacia*, or, obstinacy. This almost always grows alongside the other, and is still harder to extirpate; for its roots are so strong and deep, its branches so much upon the *noli me tangere* order, that the most skilful investigator of such matters has never yet, I believe, discovered any method of rooting it out. Among the plants with which we agriculturists have most to do, there is not one that resembles it so much as our wheat when it takes what is called "*the stud*," and will move neither forward nor backward. The only chance of cure is, when it brings its victim into some intense suffering which forces upon him the conviction that it was caused solely by his persisting in some opinion or practice of his own, contrary to the opinions and practices of every body else. Even then, the relief (if any,) is but too often only temporary; for this weed seems, in some minds, to be as natural and ineradicable a growth as the next that I shall notice. This is *Philantia*, or, self-conceit; than which there is not, in the whole catalogue, a greater poisoner of the mental soil, nor one that more unfits it for the reception of any good seed. In fact, it disdains and rejects all attempts to impart them; for the sufferer from this cause, can hardly ever be made merely to suspect that he suffers at all; or that any one knows, or can possibly know, even half as much as he does, about any business in which he happens to be engaged. Nobody's experience but his own is worth a button to him; he looks upon himself as "*omnibus impar*," up to any thing he chooses to undertake, and far above being instructed either by men or books. That droll, quaint, and most amusing old writer, Burton, thus describes *Philantia*, in his "Anatomy of Melancholy:"—

"This pleasing humor,—this soft and whispering popular ayre, *Amabilis insania*,—this delectable frensie, most irrefragable passion, *Mentis gratissimus error*,—this acceptable dis-

ease, which so sweetly sets upon us, ravisheth our senses, luller our soules asleep, puffs up our hearts as so many bladders, and that without all feeling, in so much *those that are misaffected with it never so much as once perceive it, or think of any cure.*"

I would give you still more on the same topic, from this truly original writer, together with his numerous and admirable illustrations of the effects of self-conceit; but neither time nor the limits of my letter will permit.

The two next mental weeds which I will notice, although entirely opposite in their effects, are equally injurious, equally hard to eradicate. Their Latin and English names are so much alike, that I shall call them only by the latter,—*Credulity*, and *Incredulity*. The effect of the first is to dispose the mind to a constant change of seed, without the power to discriminate between the good and the bad; and to suffer none to grow long enough to ascertain its real properties. The operation of the second is to keep the mind in what an illiterate blockhead of a congressman, whom I formerly knew, used to call "*the state of statu quo.*" In other words, it causes the mind to reject seed of every kind but that of its own choosing, and to which it has always been accustomed. Every new thing it derides, without examination, or treats it with the utmost scorn and contempt.

The last weed in my catalogue is *Sagnitia*, sloth or laziness. This operates on the mind nearly as dead palsy does on the body. For, although the former is not deprived of all sensibility, as is the latter, yet the mental feeling is so slight, even from the most stimulating appliances, that no sensible effect scarcely ever flows from them. If good seed are received at all, they will scarcely ever be sown; but *if sown*, they will never be cultivated in any such manner as to render the least service, either to the owner or to any body else. In short, the mind infested with this weed soon becomes nearly as incapable of intellectual effort as an oyster; and falls into a condition quite as hopeless as if it were at the same time filled with all the other weeds which I have described. Nothing but great bodily suffering will impel it to action, and as soon as that suffering is relieved, it instantly collapses into its former state of utter listlessness and torpidity.

You, gentlemen, and the rest of your brother editors throughout the United States, who have so laudably devoted yourselves to the great cause of American husbandry, and to whom I most cordially wish every success which your hearts can desire, may write and

print to the end of your lives in behalf of that cause; but you may rely, with absolute certainty, upon what I now say,—that unless you can discover some method to rid our minds of all the weeds I have been laboring to describe, your efforts will have far less success than they well deserve to have. Just as soon might you expect to teach an elephant to dance on a tight-rope, or to make an honest man of a thorough-bred politician, as to make good farmers either of the wilfully ignorant, the obstinate, the self-conceited, the credulous, the incredulous, or the confirmed victims of sloth. Very few of them are within the reach of any curative medicine which agricultural papers can administer,—for the very best reason in the world, they will not *read* them. And were it possible to ascertain their present numbers, I fear we should find that, take them all together, they constitute little, if any, less than one-third of our whole class.

And now, Messrs. Editors, in bidding you farewell, permit me to assure you very sincerely, that I have no such feelings of pater-nity for this communication, nor shall I have for any other, should I ever address you again, as would lead me to desire its publication, unless you yourselves should really deem it worth publishing. On no other condition whatever do I wish to appear in your paper. I must therefore beg you to rest perfectly assured, that its non-admittance therein will "break no squares" between yourselves and your agricultural friend,

EXAMINER.

We can assure our friend Examiner who, by the by is one of the most distinguished leaders in the agricultural improvements of the present day, that nothing is more appropriate for the community than his home thrust description above, of the *mental weeds* that oppose such peculiar obstacles to agricultural advancement. But we can hope to eradicate them only by the *inductive* process. *What has not been reasoned in, cannot be reasoned out.* The only chance for success with them, is that the practices and improvements of their neighbors who do read and have capacity to apply their information, will gradually take the place of their own. When they find those, who have commenced under the same circumstances as themselves, by a more enlightened and judicious system of tillage, crops, new and improved varieties of seeds and animals, are getting rich while they are growing poor on their old and favorite systems—*then*, and then only can we hope to move them to the adoption of a wiser course.

For the American Agriculturist.

To breed Males or Females.

GENT:—The rule given at page 83 of your paper, for breeding male or female animals at pleasure, would often be convenient to farmers, if capable of certainty in practice. The

experiments of a French breeder published a few years ago, seemed to make it probable, that at least in sheep, the sex of the progeny might be controlled, by the predominance of vigor in the animals bred from:—that by putting the ewes on low keep, and using vigorous rams of full age, a majority of the offspring would be males:—and that by using young rams to ewes of full age, the opposite result would be produced. At one time, I thought, I had confirmed this rule by my own experience in breeding cattle. In order to multiply the number of high bred cow calves, (a result much desired at the time,) I was careful to keep the cows in very good condition through the winter and early spring. My experience for four years gave tolerable proof that the rule was true, for of thirty-five calves produced in that time, 14 were bull calves and 21 were cow calves. But my experience of nine years induces the belief, that the theory has been deduced from the fortuitous results of particular years. In the human species, we know that the sexes are born in unvarying proportions, though nothing would seem to be more accidental than the sex of a child. We have no sufficient evidence to determine in what proportions, the sexes of cattle are produced, but I have no doubt that it is governed by laws as immutable as the proportions of the human sexes.

My stock registers will give you the following particulars, and I will observe that the cattle are kept on different farms—one a dairy stock of mixed blood—the other of high bred Short Horns kept for sale.

The total number of calves from these two herds up to this time amounts to 180—and of these 88 were bull calves and 92 were cow calves. They came as follows:—

First four years, 14 Bull Calves.		21 Heifers.	
1838,	11	"	12
1839,	11	"	11
1840,	12	"	13
1841,	20	"	17
1842,	20	"	13
	88		92

Among the heifers are classed two free martins. The condition of the animals through the whole time has been very uniform. The dairy stock being included in these results I give you the aggregate of the high bred cattle separately, viz: bull calves 22, cow calves 28.

Urbana, Ohio, July 7, 1842. J. H. J.

P. S. I see that you alluded to some committee who are charged with getting up the American Herd Book. Can you state who

compose the committee, where they are to be addressed,—and the pedigrees are to be authenticated, and within what period may pedigrees yet be sent?

The results above we give with much pleasure from an intelligent and extensive breeder. We think they rather confirm the rule than otherwise, as the Short Horns, that probably occupied the attention of their owner more fully than the common stock, gave one fourth more females than males. But we suggested the principle for experiment, and must depend on experience alone to decide it.

We are not aware of any committee now collecting information as to pedigree of American Cattle, but hope to report one duly organized in a few months.

Blight in Pear and Peach Trees.

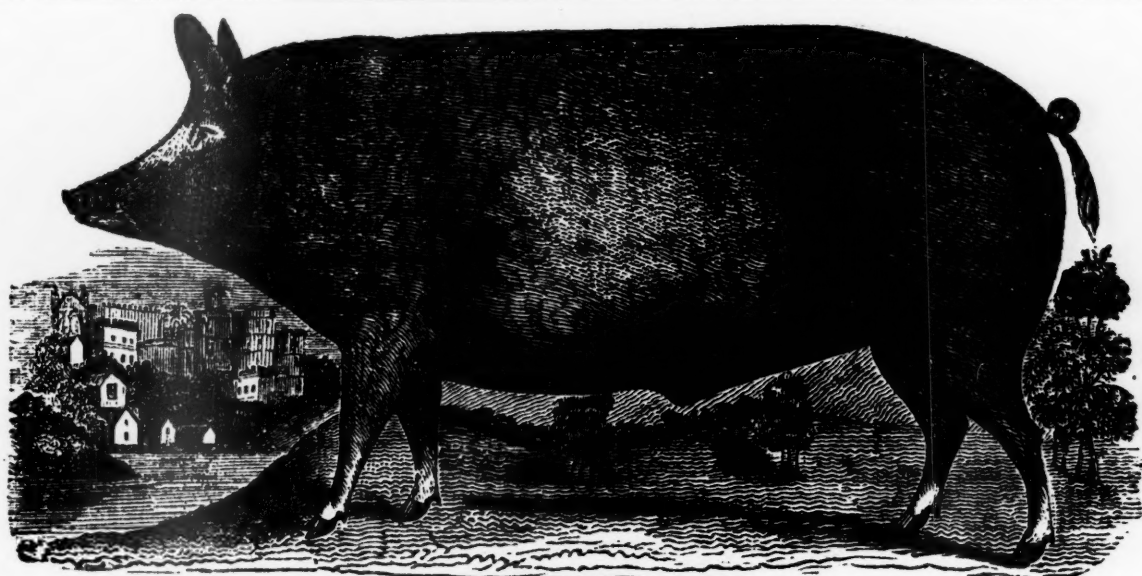
Our friend H. of Northampton, Mass., says:—

I think I have discovered the cause of canker, blight, or excrescence on plum trees, so common in New England. My trees are more free from it than any in this place, which I attribute to their being more thoroughly pruned, by which the sun and air are more freely admitted. Excessive humidity and absence of free circulation in the top, I believe to be the proximate cause of the disease. When it appears, it must be immediately taken out with a sharp knife, or if the limbs are not too large, they should be cut off and burned, to prevent the future development of the insects. I will examine this matter more particularly, by the aid of a microscope. Can you or any of your readers give the cause of blight in pear and peach trees? Some of my trees are full of spotted leaves, hard and slightly crisped. All the peach trees in this neighborhood have the leaves badly crisped, and the leaves are dying in consequence. The second growth of leaves, however, on the new shoots, seem to be doing better.

The above treatment of the plum, is identical with that of Mr. David Thomas, of Cayuga. His remarks on the Pear tree we subjoin, and shall be obliged to any of our correspondents to explain the causes of blight in the Peach tree.

"The Fire Blight in the Pear tree, which occurs early in summer, the leaves from the extremity of the branches for two or more feet, appearing as if they were scorched. We think however, that two distinct causes occasionally operate to produce similar effects, namely: insects, and a starting of the bark in winter.

"The late Professor Peck on examining the branch of a Pear tree which had died with fire blight, said the damage was caused by an insect (*Scolytus pyri*), and that to cut off the limbs a foot or more below the dead part, and IMMEDIATELY BURN THEM, would be the proper remedy. We have faithfully followed this advice; and though the fire blight has been several times in the Fruit Garden, its ravages have always been arrested at once, so that we have not lost a tree from this cause in twenty years. We have believed that the new colonies went with us when we carried off and destroyed the branches."



The Property of J. Mahard, of Hamilton Co. and R. H. Hendrickson, of Butler Co., Ohio.

For the American Agriculturist.

GENT: We forward you for insertion, from the pencil of Charles Foster, Esq., Editor of the West. Farm. and Gard. at Cin., the portrait of the thoro'-bred Berkshire boar "Windsor Castle," imported from England last year by your A. B. Allen, and disposed of to us in November last.

He measures in a direct line, from the tip of his nose along his side, to the end of his hams, 6 feet 3 1-2 inches; from root of the ear to end of the hams, 5 feet 1 inch; height to the top of his shoulder, 2 feet 11 inches; do. to top of the rump, 3 feet; girth round the heart, immediately behind the fore leg, in fair working order only, 5 feet 6 inches; and if fattened, he would girth at least 7 feet, and stand 3 inches higher than he now does, as these animals always put much flesh on their backs in the fattening process; and it is estimated that he could be made to weigh 800 lbs. easily. It is not in his great size, however, that we claim peculiar excellence, but in his general fine points and handling, soft silky hair, thin skin, and quick feeding properties; and joined to all these, he has the bearing and action of a blood horse, and we are confident that his stock, like himself, will prove what is so essential here at the West, *first-rate travellers*. His coat is a deep rich plumb color, intermixed with a slight flecking of white and buff.

You will recollect asserting, that the largest dealers and best judges, in Berkshire, England, informed you, that they had not known so large and fine a boar in that county for 20 years, and without intending in the least to disparage the value of any

other animal, we will say, that the same opinion is expressed by all who have seen him in this country. The most forward pigs that we have of his stock now, are about 5 months old; and we find, notwithstanding their increased size over any other Berkshires we have before bred, they fatten as kindly as those of the smaller sizes, and that this stock can be made ready for the knife at any age desired by its breeders.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN MAHARD, JR. of Cincinnati, Ohio.

R. H. HENDRICKSON, Middleton, "

July 1, 1842.

We are indebted to our spirited friend, T. Affleck, Esq. recently editor of the Wes. Far. and Gard. for a long letter, and he will pardon us for extracting a paragraph which gives a graphic account of the climate and seasons of that favored latitude. It is dated Ingleside, Wash'n, Miss., June 30, 1842. He says—

As to health I have no fears. They tell me we have already had specimens of the hottest weather, and though the sun shines out intensely for a few hours in the day, there is such a fine breeze constantly stirring, that I feel the heat less than I have done north of the Ohio river.

You would be surprised at the advancement of the season. All who can are gathering their corn fodder, and I am preparing to cut up and shock this week and next. Oats and rye are all harvested, and corn, peas, &c., planted on the stubble, (turned in, of course,) a second crop of hay cut from the meadows of Bermuda grass; and many planters will commence cotton picking within four weeks. In the garden, spring and summer flowers are all gone, the dahlia having been the prin-

cipal ornament for some weeks. Okra, tomatoes, Lima beans, &c., have lost their novelty weeks ago. Plums all gone. Peaches, melons, apples, pears, grapes, and figs, now in perfection; the last certainly the greatest luxury in the fruit line I ever partook of.

We are indebted to Mr. John Harland, of Guelph, U. C., for his letter of the 8th July. Of course we shall feel obliged by the portrait of his fine prize-boar, Wamba, accompanied with a description of the improved Yorkshire breed of Swine. For the present, Mr. H. says that Wamba weighs about 550 pounds, in good working condition, with fine skin, hair, &c. He took the first premium at the Agricultural show, in the Wellington District, last October. We shall take great pleasure in looking at him, in our contemplated tour north, as well as the fine Short-Horns, Leicester and South Devon sheep that he speaks of.

Mr. Stevenson, late editor of the Kentucky Farmer, has been deterred by ill-health from making us any communication. When shall we hear from Robert W. Scott, Esq., Colonel Williams, and many others?

Mr. S. W. Jewett's description of sheep is received, with five specimens of Merino wool, and the portrait of his Paular buck, which sheared 14 lbs. wool in June last. We shall give it in our next.

LADIES DEPARTMENT.

For the American Agriculturist.

The Cultivation and Uses of the Raspberry.

There is but one variety we believe of this beautiful shrub, which is not useful for the table, and this, the (*Rubus odoratus*) or rose-flowering raspberry, deserves cultivation in a favorable soil for its beauty, and we think, though we have never seen it cultivated, it would form a very ornamental appendage to the arbours and terraces of our flower gardens and grounds. It loves a moist and mountainous region, and jutting out, as we have seen it, by the side of a clear, welling stream, from the deep fissures of some lofty rock, or overhanging the flower-mantled precipice, with its rich, red petals and moss covered calyx, itself the brightest gem of the graceful coronet, we have thought this luxuriant plant scarcely to be surpassed in attractiveness. But our present subject has a reference more to the gratification of the palate than to the charming of the eye.

Much attention is now given to the cultivation of the Raspberry, and the numerous varieties of this agreeable fruit which have been constantly increasing and improving, give evidence that its culture well repays the trouble. Among these, we would specify particularly, the Ohio Ever-bearing Raspberry, which we believe ranks first; the Red, and Yellow or White Antwerp; the Purple Garden Raspberry (*R. Idéus*); the Grape Raspberry, which was raised some years ago

from the seed of an imported plant, by a gentleman of Charlestown, Mass., and is a very large fine variety, but little known, bearing profusely, and resembling the Barnet; another fine variety, the Smooth Cane, or double bearing; the White American, (too much neglected); the common Red, and the Black American, or wild Raspberry, (*R. occidentalis*). Of the Ever-bearing, you have already spoken in a previous number, but what little information I have been able to glean respecting it may not be uninteresting, in this connection, to some of your readers. As your correspondent has there remarked, it was "first discovered fifteen years since in the northern part of Ohio, near Lake Erie," and by the lovers of this fine fruit, it is considered superior to any other variety, being larger, bearing earlier, and having a superior flavor, with this peculiar advantage, that, after the usual season of bearing on the wood of the previous year, the young shoots begin to bear successively, affording thus a supply of fruit till vegetation is checked by the chilling frosts of autumn. The fruit, Mr. Carpenter remarks, is not unlike "the wild Black Raspberry, but larger, and of finer flavor." It is also longer and of a dark purple, which at first induced some to fancy it a variety of the Purple Garden Raspberry, as also from its character of self-propagation from the shoots when low enough, turning into the ground. By many, familiar with both the Ever-bearing and the Antwerp, who do not approve the peculiar flavor of the latter, the former is judged preferable. Except by the Shakers of Warren Co. Ohio, and their brethren at Warrenville, near Cleveland, and by Mr. Longworth of Cincinnati, and a few other western gentlemen, we fear it has as yet been little appreciated, although our own experience has proved the Purple Garden Raspberry, if indeed it be not a variety of the same, to possess many of its descriptive traits. This, the (*R. Idéus*), is a late bearer, continuing in blossom and fruit until the last of autumn, having no suckers, but propagating itself when bending close to the ground, although it is judicious to assist nature by selecting the more vigorous shoots and inserting them into a hole made for the purpose, and then pressing the earth gently around them. It is also remarked of the Ever-bearing Raspberry, that the second crop is superior to the first, and certainly with all its other advantages, it is singular that it should have been entirely overlooked by botanists, conspicuous as it is, moreover, for its large white flowers, which appear in clusters on the same shrub, already drooping with its luxuriant harvest of luscious fruit. We hope our eastern horticulturists will think this variety worthy of their attention, if as yet it has received no notice from them. The common wild Red Raspberry we have cultivated to some extent, and though we have not found the delicious flavor of this fruit in its native state, materially increased by cultivation, yet we have observed it continues in bearing much later than its compeers of the fields and woods. From a dozen three year old plants, we have for as many years, gathered at least a pint every day or two, till late in October, after the harvest season had gone by. We cannot say much, 'tis true, for the flavor of the very late ones, partaking as they do, too much of the tart, but we have thought in a warmer climate, away from the lakes, say in the interior of the state, every variety of the native raspberry might, with proper care, be improved, and possess perhaps, with cultivation, this same property of bearing late. We are advocates however, in all things, for giving our labor first to that which profiteth most, and therefore, when they can be procured, we would recommend the cultivation first of the most productive and valuable varieties; the native fruits always being a commodity of the market, and indeed their place is

hardly to be supplied for sweetmeats, jams, &c. But there may be some that can procure no other, who would find it for their convenience to *transplant* the raspberry in its native state, which may be done as early as possible after the fruit is gone, although at any time they may do so with propriety from July until the frost sets in, which, by putting an end to all garden preparations for another year, reproves the laggard for his procrastination. This requires but little labor and expense, other than that of time, for which an equivalent is returned the following season in an abundant supply of delicious and wholesome fruit for family use. *Before planting*, the ground ought to be well dug and manured, and the plants placed at considerable distances apart. It is well to select moist weather for this purpose, and if, after planting, the weather is dry, the plants should be daily watered until they have taken root. As soon as possible too, after the ripening and disappearing of the fruit, cut down the old wood below the surface of the ground, as it bears but one year, and after removing the superfluous suckers, reserve 3 or 4 of the more vigorous shoots around the parent one, to bear the following year. These shorten, and then carefully lay them down upon soil raised to prevent their breaking, and cover them with a few inches of light soil. Soon after the frost has left the ground in the spring, raise the plants, and if they are slender or exposed to the wind, either tie them together, or confine them to stakes. In this manner, with proper attention to have them occasionally hoed around and freed from weeds and grass, one plantation may be kept in fine bearing for 6 or 7 years, by which time a younger growth of shoots previously taken from the side of the older plants might be ready to succeed to their place in contributing so desirable a luxury for the future use of the family.

I subjoin some recipes for the uses of the Raspberry, and some other things, which I can recommend from my own practice, that you can insert if you deem them of sufficient consequence.

ELLA.

We can assure our fair Correspondent, we consider the cultivation of the Raspberry, on which she has given us so instructive and agreeable a communication, and the following Recipes also, as well meriting attention as the indefinite multiplication of the more substantial productions of the farm, and we give them a place with great pleasure. As we have not seen them before, we presume the receipts are original.

Loudon, in treating of the Raspberry, says "The Syrup is next to the strawberry in dissolving the tartar of the teeth, and as like that fruit, it does not undergo the acetous fermentation in the stomach; they are therefore recommended to rheumatic and gouty patients." The raspberry is also useful in the confectionary department, forming an excellent fruit for tarts, jams, and sweetmeats, and when properly prepared as a syrup, and diluted, makes a delicious and refreshing beverage, very cooling and safe in fevers.

Raspberry Syrup.—To every quart of fruit, add a pound of sugar, and let it stand over night. In the morning boil and skim it for half an hour; then strain it through a flannel bag and pour into bottles, which must be carefully corked and sealed. To each bottle, add if you please a trifle of brandy, if the weather is so warm as to endanger its keeping.

The same recipe answers for *blackberries*.

Raspberry Jam.—1 lb. Loaf or White Havana Sugar, to every pound of fruit—bruise them together in your preserving pan with a silver spoon, and let them simmer gently for an hour. When cold, put them into glass or china jars, and lay over them a bit of paper saturated with brandy—then tie them up so as carefully to exclude the air. They will keep a year, and are bet-

ter than if made after the old method, with the addition of currant jelly.

Ginger Beer.—One pint molasses and two spoonfuls ginger, put into a pail to be half filled with boiling water—when well stirred together, fill the pail with cold water, leaving room for one pint of yeast, which must not be put in until luke-warm. Place it on a warm hearth for the night, and bottle it in the morning.

Beer, (from a Lady of Weathersfield, Conn.)—20 drops of the oil of spruce, 20 do. wintergreen, 20 do. Sassafras. Pour two quarts of boiling water upon the oils, then add eight quarts of cold water, one pint and a half of molasses, and a half pint of yeast. Let it stand two hours and then bottle it.

Rennet or Wine Custards.—Very simple, and prepared in five minutes. Cut a bit of Rennet about 4 inches square into strips, which put into a bottle filled with wine. It will be fit for use in two or three weeks. To make your custard, first *warm* and *sweeten* the milk, then stir into it a tea spoonful or table spoonful of the rennet wine, according to its strength, and pour immediately into a pudding dish, or cups, as you prefer—put away in a cool place for an hour, and grate nutmeg on them. The whey, of which you can make enough, by the addition of extra wine when you prepare it, is a very nourishing drink for invalids.

Tomato Catsup.—To a gallon skinned tomatoes, 4 table spoonfuls salt, 4 do. black pepper, half a spoonful alspice, 8 red peppers, and 3 spoonfuls mustard. All these ingredients must be ground fine and simmered slowly in sharp vinegar 3 or 4 hours. As much vinegar is to be used as to leave half a gallon of liquor when the process is over. Strain through a wire sieve and bottle, and seal from the air. This may be used in two weeks, but improves by age, and will keep several years.

Dr. Rush's Cure for persons who have drank imprudently of cold water or any cold liquid when too much heated. Doses of *liquid laudanum* proportioned to the violence of the attack. From a tea spoonful to near a table spoonful has been given before relief has been obtained.

The best and most simple recipe for preserving Eggs.—Pack them during the summer and fall for winter. Take a stone crock or firkin, and put in a layer of salt, half an inch deep—insert your eggs on the *small end*, and cover each layer of eggs with a layer of salt. If the eggs are fresh when packed, and put into a cool dry place, they will keep perfectly good until the following summer.

Boil Salsify or Vegetable Oysters till the skin will come off easily. When you have taken it off neatly, cut the roots in bits as long as an oyster; put into a deep vegetable dish a layer of crumbs of bread or crackers, a little salt and pepper and nutmeg, and a covering of butter as thin as you can cut it; then a layer of oysters, till your dish is filled, having crumbs at top. Fill the dish with water, and brown them handsomely. They can remain two hours in the oven without injury, or be eaten in half-an-hour.

Indian Meal Cakes.—To three pints of indian meal, a piece of butter as large as an egg, and a teaspoonful of salt. Put two teacupsful of boiling water, stir it in, then add three eggs, and milk to make it to the consistency of batter. Half a teaspoonful of saleratus.

Whooping Cough.—A teaspoonful of castor oil to a tablespoonful of molasses: a teaspoonful of the mixture to be given whenever the cough is troublesome. It will afford relief at once, and in a few days it effects a cure.

The same remedy relieves the croup, however violent the attack.

SELECTIONS.

WHEAT.—The minor varieties of any species of wheat are not permanent in their character, though, under given conditions, they will remain unchanged for an indefinite period. Under other circumstances, however, they degenerate; and hence particular kinds that were once valued, have now ceased to be so. The best advice that can be given, therefore, in the choice of varieties and sub-varieties, is to select those which the practice and experience of the principal farmers of the neighborhood have stamped as the best. Colonel Le Couteur, one of the best authorities on the culture of wheat, has given us the result of his experiments and great experience, upon four of the best pure and improved varieties of wheat lately introduced into England.

1. *White downy*.—This excellent variety is believed to be the same that is so well described by Boys, in his *General View of the Agriculture of Kent*, as the "Hoary White," or "Velvet-eared," said by him to have been much prized by the millers, but then entirely lost. The seed, after being washed and steeped, was sown in drills seven inches apart, at the rate of two bushels or a little more to the acre. The wheat was carefully hand-hoed in the month of May, which caused it to tiller freely. The preceding crop was potatoes. This wheat will withstand the most severe weather. The season 1837 to 1838 was a very trying one, both as to wetness and severity of cold, the thermometer having fallen to 18° below freezing; but the crops of this wheat raised by my neighbors were perfectly insensible to it, and of great produce. This wheat is not remarkable for its early maturity, though it cannot be called a tardy variety. It is not subject to degenerate, and if attention is paid to sowing the seed pure, and annually, or even occasionally, varying the manure intended for it, it is possible it may never degenerate. The only objection to it is the huskiness or velvety ear, which in damp weather is retentive of moisture; and in snatchy seasons the grain is more apt to sprout than the smooth-chaffed varieties. It is not much affected with dust-brand; and when pickled and limed, has never been found with smut-balls. It is little liable to shed, even when over-ripe, and will resist very heavy gales without being laid or broken.

2. *Jersey Dantzic*.—The seed is described as having been raised from a single ear, originating from seed procured from Dantzic, selected from the finest "high mixed." It is, however, suspected to be identical with some excellent sorts, called in Sussex, Kent, and some parts of Surrey, the "Chittums;" in other parts, "Pegglesham;" in Berkshire, "Trump;" in Essex, "Hardcastle;" in some counties, "Old Suffolk;" in Scotland, "Hunter's White;" and assuming several other names. This wheat is not quite so hard as the "hoary;" it is, nevertheless, considered sufficiently so to succeed throughout the kingdom, excepting the northern parts of Scotland. In rich soils it tillers amazingly, and produces a longer straw than the hoary, nor is it so liable to sprout in a moist climate, from being smooth-chaffed: in very severe, moist, and stormy weather, it will be laid sooner than the hoary.

It ripens a week earlier, at least, than the variety last described, and should be reaped while the grain can be marked by pressure from the thumb-nail, as it is rather liable to shed if over-ripe, a disadvantage which the hoary is peculiarly free from, as it is tenacious to the ear. In a dry season, this wheat will afford a beautiful, clean, white straw, fit for bonnet-making, or any purpose of thatching: it is firm and tenacious. In wet seasons it is rather subject to rust, which, under such circumstances, almost all wheat suffers from.

3. *Whittington Wheat*.—The seed was obtained from Mr. Whittington himself, and was a very fine pure sample. The grain is large, full, and plump, rather of a whitish-red cast, and a little thick-skinned. The seed was washed, pickled, drained, and limed, then sown in drills seven inches apart, about three bushels to the acre. When the seed is large, it is considered prudent to add half a bushel or more to the acre. I consider this to be a very hardy wheat, affording much herbage and straw, very fit for being eaten down by sheep in the spring, when sown early in the fall. The Whittington is rather a late wheat, ripening a week or ten days later than the Jersey Dantzic before described, though it was in bloom on the same day. From the purity of the seed, and the uniform appearance of the crop, it does not appear likely to degenerate, nor does it seem more liable to disease than other wheats. The straw is brittle, and many ears break off. I am of opinion, from what I have witnessed, that the value of this description is much over-rated: the millers dislike it, and in certain situations it is apt to blight.

4. *Bellevue Talavera*.—This admirable variety is invaluable where it is adapted to the soil and climate. The seed being large, a greater quantity of it should be allowed than usual. This wheat has succeeded in the north of Scotland, and is sufficiently hardy to withstand the winter in its grassy state, but it is otherwise more valuable as a spring crop: without doubt it may be sown as late as the first week in February in all the milder parts of England, with a prospect of reaping quite as good an average crop from it as from any other wheat, but with a certainty of obtaining more flour than from most. There is no tendency to degenerate observable in this wheat, as far as the experience of five or six years goes; nor, from its early habits, is it at all likely to become intermixed by fecundation from other varieties, though sown about the same period, as it will, in such cases, flower a fortnight or three weeks before them. It is not more liable to disease than ordinary white wheats, and affords a very fine clear white straw: it is, indeed, one of the Italian bonnet-making varieties. There is, however, one disadvantage in it, which is, that the ear is so heavy that it is apt to break down, though not break off, when swept by a gale about the period of ripening; but it has a countervailing good quality, of ripening the grain equally well though bent down; as is the case with spring wheats, which ripen their seed well though quite laid, which with winter wheats is doubtful. Another peculiarity is the tenacity of the chaff to the ear, more remaining on it after passing through the threshing-machine than any other variety I am acquainted with.—*Johnson's Encyclopedia*.

PULVERIZING THE SOIL.—To demonstrate that dews moisten the land when fine, dig a hole in the hard dry ground, in the driest weather, as deep as the plough ought to reach; beat the earth very fine, and fill the hole therewith; and after a few nights' dews, you will find this fine earth become moist at the bottom, and the hard ground all round will become dry. Till a field in lands: make one land very fine by frequent deep ploughing, and let another be rough by insufficient tillage alternately; then plough the whole field crosswise in the driest weather, which has continued long, and you will perceive, by the color of the earth, that every fine land will be turned up moist, but every rough land will be dry as powder from top to bottom. In the driest weather, good hoeing procures moisture to roots; though the ignorant and incurious fancy it lets in the drought, and therefore are afraid to hoe their plants at such times.

There is yet one more benefit hoeing gives to plants which by no art can possibly be given to animals; for

all that can be done in feeding an animal is, to give it sufficient food at the time it has occasion for it; if you give an animal any more, it is to no manner of purpose, unless you could give it more mouths, which is impossible; but, in hoeing a plant, the additional nourishment thereby given enables it to send out innumerable additional fibres and roots; so that hoeing, by the new pasture it raises, furnishes both food and mouths to plants.—*Tull.*

BARLEY FROM HUDSON'S BAY.—Our readers may well be surprised to hear of barley from Hudson's Bay; we were, certainly. That a country so far north as to be almost perpetually covered with ice and snow, and seldom trodden save by the bear and the Esquimaux, should produce this grain, is not a little singular. Such seems to be the fact. Messrs. Newberry and Dole, of this city, have for sale some thirteen or fourteen barrels of barley, the grains of which are so unusually large that they attract instant attention. They are full and plump, and nearly double the ordinary size. This barley was raised at Green Bay, the seed from which it sprung having been brought from Hudson's Bay. It is said that a crop of this description of barley can be harvested in eight weeks from the time it is sown. This would be about the duration of summer in the neighborhood of Hudson's Bay. It is evident, then, that this species of barley is admirably calculated for our latitude. Not only would an unusually valuable crop be produced in an unusually short space of time, but two crops could be easily raised in one season.—*Chi. Am.*

STATEMENT of J. T. Lansing for making Butter which received 1st Premium from N. Y. State Ag. Soc., in 1841:—

1. The number of cows kept is ten.
2. Keep them stabled through the inclement season; feed them from three to four times per day with good hay or green stalks; when near coming in, add some oats, barley, or corn cracked. In summer, good pasture, with living water accessible at all times, and plenty of salt.
3. Treatment of milk and cream before churning.—Strain the milk in tin pans; place them in a cool cellar for the cream to rise. When sufficiently risen, separate the cream from the milk; put it in stone jars, well prepared, before churning.
4. The mode of churning in summer.—Rinse the churn with cold water; then turn in the cream, and add to each jar of cream put in churn, full one-fourth of the same quantity of cold water. The churn used is a patent one, moved by hand with a crank, having paddles attached, and so constructed as to warm the milk, if too cold, with hot water, without mixing them together. The milk and cream receive the same treatment in winter as in summer; and in churning, use hot instead of cold water, if necessary.
5. The method of freeing the butter from the milk, is to wash the butter with cold water till it shows no color of the milk, by the use of a ladle.
6. Salting of the butter.—Use the best kind of Liverpool sack salt; the quantity varies according to the state in which the butter is taken from the churn; if soft, more, if hard, less, always taking the taste for the surest guide. Add no saltpetre, nor other substances.
7. The best time for churning is the morning, in hot weather, and to keep the butter cool till put down.
8. The best mode of preserving butter in and through the summer and winter, is as follows:—The vessel is a stone jar, clean and sweet. The mode of putting it down is to put in a churning of butter, and put on strong brine; let it remain on until the next churning is ready

to put down, and so on till the jar is filled; then cover it over with fine salt, the same to remain on till used.

STATEMENT of Wm. Merrifield, received 2d Premium, as above:—

- Number of cows.—Eight.
- Mode of keeping.—In pasture, in summer; on hay, straw, and roots, in winter.
- Treatment of cream and milk.—Milk strained into tin pans, and placed in the cellar.
- Mode of churning.—The cream only churned, in a Dutch churn.
- Method of freeing the butter from the milk.—By pressure.
- Quantity and kind of salt.—Liverpool sack, one ounce to the pound.
- Best time of churning.—Morning, in summer.
- Best mode of keeping.—In the cellar, in summer, in wood.

In winter, our milk stands twelve hours; is then removed to the stove, and scalded over a slow fire to near boiling heat; the pans removed to the cellar to cool; the cream only churned. The butter, placed in the coldest part of the house, will keep good any length of time.

STATEMENT of H. P. & G. Allen, who received 1st Premium for making Cheese, from N. Y. State Ag. Soc., in 1841:—

Number of cows kept, eleven. Cheese made from two milkings, in the English manner; no addition made of cream. For a cheese of twenty pounds, a piece of rennet about two inches square is soaked about twelve hours in one pint of water. As rennets differ much in quality, enough should be used to coagulate the milk sufficiently in about forty minutes. No salt is put into the cheese, nor any on the outside during the first six or eight hours it is being pressed; but a thin coat of fine Liverpool salt is kept on the outside during the remainder of the time it remains in press. The cheeses are pressed forty-eight hours under a weight of seven or eight cwt. Nothing more is required but to turn the cheeses once a day on the shelves.

STATEMENT of D. Marvin, who received 2d Premium for Cheese:—

The milk strained in large tubs over night; the cream stirred in milk, and in morning strained in same tub; milk heated to natural heat; add color and rennet; curd broke fine and whey off, and broke fine in hoop with fast bottom, and put in strainer; pressed twelve hours; then taken from hoop, and salt rubbed on the surface; then put in hoop, without strainer, and pressed forty-eight hours; then put on tables, and salt rubbed on surface, and remain in salt six days, for cheese weighing thirty pounds. The hoops to have holes in the bottom; the crushings are saved, and set and churned, to grease the cheese. The above method is for making one cheese per day.

Tincture of Roses.—Take leaves of the common rose, (*centifolies*) place them, without pressing them, in a bottle, pour good spirits upon them, close the bottle, and let it stand until it is required for use. This tincture will keep for years, and yield a perfume little inferior to otto of roses. A few drops of it will suffice to impregnate the atmosphere of a room with a delicious odor. Common vinegar is greatly improved by a very small quantity being added to it.—*German paper.*

Brittania Ware should be first rubbed with a woollen cloth and sweet oil; then washed in water and suds, and rubbed with soft leather and whiting. Thus treated, it will retain its beauty to the last.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

"Farmers' Encyclopedia, by Cuthbert W. Johnson. London, 1842." We have received the concluding number of this highly valuable work, which has been in course of publication for the last year. It is intended to give general views on the various subjects of which it treats, and it will be found to contain a large amount of valuable information, though some subjects might be omitted entirely, and many more curtailed, without detriment to the American reader. It will have been noticed we have made selections from it for the previous numbers, as well as the present, of our work. The style is pleasing and popular, the arrangement judicious, and the matter well-selected and ably treated, either by the editor, or the best writers from whom he has selected. We presume, from the decided merits of the work, it will be republished in this country; and we trust the publishers, whoever they may be, will thoroughly digest their plan, before submitting it to American readers.

"The Dollar Farmer," published monthly by Prentice and Weissinger, Louisville, Ky. We have received the first number of this new periodical, devoted entirely to the farmers' interest. It is a neatly-executed monthly, of 16 pages, quarto, and is well filled with editorial and selected matter, adapted to the general interests of agriculture. We hope to see the circulation of sterling agricultural works extended, till one or more copies shall be found in the hands of every farmer of the U. States.

NEW WORK.—"The Farm House of the 19th Century, or Encyclopedia of Practical Agriculture. With more than 2,000 Engravings. New York, S. S. Haskell, 138 Fulton street, 1842." The first No. of this work has been sent us. It is to be published in forty semi-monthly Nos., of 48 pages; 25 cents each. It is a translation from a recent French work of conceded merit, being a compilation on the various subjects of agriculture as understood and practised in France, by several of their most scientific agriculturists. The translator has, in a spirited preface, well set forth the necessity of enlarged information among the farmers of this country; which the work is well calculated to afford.

Several books on agricultural subjects were handed in too late for notice in this No.; they will appear in our next.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

Directory for Fairs in 1842.

Those sending notices of Fairs will please to observe, that if sent us printed in a newspaper, they subject us to no postage; if sent in a handbill, they will cost us letter postage.

N. YORK AMERICAN INSTITUTE, to be held in the city of New York. Gen. James Talmadge, Pres't; T. B. Wakeman, Cor. Sec.

N. YORK STATE SOCIETY, at Albany, Sep. 28th and 29th. James Wadsworth, Pres't; H. S. Randall, Cor. Sec.; L. Tucker, Rec. Sec.

ONEIDA COUNTY, at Rome, Oct. 12th and 13th. P. Jones, Pres't; E. Comstock, Cor. Sec.; R. S. Doty, Rec. Sec.

RENSSELAER COUNTY, at Lansingburgh, first week in October. Joseph Hastings, Pres't; Giles B. Kellogg, Sec.

ONTARIO COUNTY, at Canandaigua, 12th and 13th Oct. ERIE COUNTY, at Buffalo, 5th and 6th Oct. L. F. Allen, Pres't; Warren Bryant, Sec.

MONROE COUNTY, at Rochester, Oct. 13th and 14th.

GENESEE COUNTY, at Batavia, Oct. 20th and 21st.

ONONDAGA COUNTY, at Syracuse, Oct. 5th and 6th.

SENECA COUNTY, at Waterloo, Oct. 20th and 21st.

WAYNE COUNTY, at Palmyra, Sep. 5th and 6th.

TOMPKINS COUNTY, at Ithaca, Oct. 6th and 7th.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, at Genesee, Oct. 4th.

UNION AG. Soc., at Aurora, Kane County, Ill., 19th Oct.

J. T. Gifford, Pres't; J. S. Wright, Cor. and Rec. Sec.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY, at New Haven, Sep. 28th and 29th.

B. Silliman, Pres't; Henry Whitney, Sec.

The WELLINGTON U. Canada Fair, at Fergus 4th Oct., at Berba 7th; at Guelph 11th.

The GORE DISTRICT U. C. AG. Soc., at Dundas, 13th Oct.

The ROYAL ENGLISH AG. Soc. was to hold its annual cattle show at Bristol, commencing July 14th.

Geo. Reed, Esq., Cor. Sec. of Wisconsin Ag. Soc., in his letter dated 23d May, says:—

Will you allow me to suggest the enlargement of your statistical table on agriculture, in some future No.; bringing into connexion with what is already published, other equally important information, which, I presume, can be found in the census returns, &c. &c. &c.

We should most gladly increase this kind of information to a large extent, could we procure such as could be relied on for this purpose. But many of those obtained in the last U. States census, were grossly inaccurate, and were corrected with much labor and investigation, subsequently, at the Patent office, in Washington. We trust that competent men hereafter may be appointed to this office, who have capacity to understand their duty, and integrity and character to execute it; not mere political machines, as they not unfrequently are. We should then possess an immense amount of information on all matters relating to agriculture and political economy, of incalculable value to the statesman and philanthropist.

SILK COCOONS.—For the benefit of silk-growers throughout the country, we mention the fact, that our state authorities at the Sing-Sing State-prison are paying \$3 per bushel

for cocoons. There was a difficulty in disposing of the article in some parts of the country, last season, owing to the want of machinery or skilful persons to manufacture it. This last branch of industry ought always to be added to the former, as it affords employment to the women and children of the family during a portion of the year when their labor would be of little value for other purposes. We intend giving a simple manual on this subject soon.

We understand extensive preparations are making for the manufacture of silk, by our state convicts; it being a branch of business not coming in conflict with the *voluntary* labor of our artisans to any extent; though we hope soon to see a rebellion of our *silk manufacturers*, (we have yet to manufacture them,) against the monopoly of their craft.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY is attracting considerable attention at the present moment, particularly at the South and West; and to the many inquiries addressed to us upon it, we beg leave to answer, that we are daily looking for essays on this subject from two valued friends, who to practical and experienced acquaintance as breeders in our own country, join the advantage of extensive travel and observation in different parts of Europe. In the mean while, we say:—

1. If the production of wool is the object, take the Merino and Saxon; and, if possible, procure Rambouillet and Paular rams to cross on the first, as they are the largest and most superior class of animals we know, they being originally derived from the same source, viz., the Merinos of Spain.

2. If delicate mutton is wanted, with a medium fibre of wool, take South Downs.

3. If larger mutton, with somewhat coarser quality of wool than the last, though much longer and more of it, is desired, procure Cotswold, Leicester, Bakewell, Lincoln, or New Oxford.

4. Many of those who have crossed the South Downs with the Leicester and the other long woolled sheep, prefer these, for the reasons stated in No. 2 of our Tour in England.

5. Others in this country greatly prefer a cross of the Leicester with the Merino, half and half, and then breeding those grades together. Their reasons in favor of this cross are these:—1st. It gives a large sheep, with plenty of mutton. 2d. A large fleece of wool, and of sufficient fineness for all purposes of domestic manufacture, and gets rid of the

troublesome length of the pure Leicester. 3d. The animal is in good shape, good constitution, thrifty, hardy, and comes to maturity one year sooner than the Merino; has nothing of his rugged appearance, and has little or no gum in his wool.

The subject of mixing fine and coarse woolled animals, has been pretty thoroughly tried by Lord Western, and other eminent breeders, and though pursued with great enthusiasm, has not met, as we understand, with very marked success. But this is a fanciful matter, and has nothing to do with the plain, practical farmer, who takes his half-and-half cross, and is satisfied with a useful animal. We have seen beautiful, and, we will add, almost perfect, specimens of the cross of the South Down, as well as the Merino, with the Leicester, uniting all the essential good qualities of the two, without their defects; and we can only say, when they have been successful, and these crosses meet the views of the breeders making them, we advise a continuation. Different persons and localities, require and must have different animals to suit them.

We notice that very agreeable and instructive agricultural writer, Doct. M. W. Phillips, of Mississippi, has joined the Western Farmer and Gardner, as assistant editor. He has for several months been among its most able contributors, and we heartily congratulate the readers of this valuable work, upon the additional interest that will hereafter be given to it.

SALTPETRE.—Our friend, Mr. Benedict, of Staten Island, in accordance with our suggestion of soaking his seed corn in saltpetre, having prepared his seed, ordered it to be planted. But, in his absence, a neighbor, who is a *decided opponent of book farming*, saw what his son was about, and advised him to throw away his corn, as it would never come up. This was done, and the balance of the field planted with unsoaked seed. Mr. B. says, that the corn from the nitrated seed is now *twice* as large and thrifty as the remainder of the field. When will our hard working, well meaning farmers learn that a vast amount of money may be made, without additional effort of personal labor, by consulting sound practical agricultural works?

TAR for greasing wagons, we think an absurd article. In the hottest weather it soon gums up and becomes adhesive, and in cold weather is always so. Wherever iron axletrees are used, *black lead* mixed with grease is best:—or *Flour* mixed with *Lard*.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

Prices Current in New-York, July 28, 1842.

ASHES, Pots, per 100 lb.	\$ 25	to 5 50
Pearls, do.	5 62	.. 5 69
BEESEWAX, Yellow, per lb.	28	.. 30
COTTON, Louisiana, do.	5 1/2	.. 10
Upland, do.	5	.. 9
Florida, do.	5	.. 8
Alabama, do.	5 1/2	.. 10
FEATHERS, American, live, per lb.	25	.. 33
FLAX, American, per lb.	8	.. 8 1/2
FLOUR, Northern and Western, via Erie Canal, per bbl.	5 94	.. 6 00
do. via N. Orleans.	5 75	.. 5 88
Southern, per bbl.	5 75	.. 5 88
RYE, per bbl.	3 88	.. 4 00
NEAL, Corn, per bbl.	2 81	.. 3 00
do. per hhd.	14 00	.. 14 25
WHEAT, Western, per bushel.	1 27	.. 1 30
Southern, do.	1 26	.. 1 30
RYE, Northern, per bushel.	68	.. 70
CORN, do.	59	.. 61
Southern, do.	54	.. 55
BARLEY, per bushel.	60	.. 62
OATS, Northern, per bushel.	31	.. 33
Southern, do.	28	.. 31
PEAS, Green, do.	91	.. 1 12
BEANS, White, per bushel.	1 20	.. 1 40
CLOVER SEED, per lb.	7 1/2	.. 8 1/2
TIMOTHY SEED, per tierce of 7 bu.	13 00	.. 14 00
FLAX SEED, rough, do.	10 50	.. 11 00
clean, do.	12 00	.. 12 50
RICE, per 100 lb.	2 50	.. 3 00
JIEMP, Russia, per ton.	215 00	.. 230 00
American, do.	—	.. —
HOPS, first sort, per lb.	11	.. 14
LEAD, Pig, per lb.	3 1/2	.. 3 1/2
Sheet and Bar, per lb.	5 1/2	.. —
OIL, Linseed, American, per gal.	82	.. 88
PLASTER OF PARIS, first quality, per ton.	2 25	.. 2 75
unground do.	2 00	.. 2 12 1/2
BEEF Mess, per bbl.	7 25	.. 8 00
Prime, do.	2 50	.. 3 00
Cargo, do.	1 75	.. 2 00
PORK, Mess, do.	8 00	.. 9 00
Prime, do.	5 37 1/2	.. 6 50
LARD, per lb.	6 1/2	.. 7 1/2
BUTTER, best Table, per lb.	15	.. 19
Western, good, per lb.	10	.. 11
Shipping, do.	6	.. 7
CHEESE, in boxes and casks, per lb.	6	.. 6 1/2
HAMS, Smoked, per lb.	5	.. 6
Pickled, do.	4	.. 4 1/2
Shoulders, smoked.	3 1/2	.. 4
BEEF, Smoked, do.	5 1/2	.. 6 1/2
SALT, Liverpool, ground, sack	1 15	.. 1 20
do. fine, do.	1 60	.. 1 65
SUGAR, New Orleans, per lb.	3	.. 6
TOBACCO, Virginia, do.	2	.. 6
Kentucky, do.	2 1/2	.. 6 1/2
TALLOW, American, do.	7 1/2	.. 8
WOOL, American Saxony fleece, per lb.	36	.. 38
Full blood Merino do.	25	.. 35
Half to three-fourths do.	25	.. 30
Native to half do.	18	.. 25
SHEEP PELTS, each.	20	.. 50
HAY, new, per 100lb.	50	.. 75
old do.	62	.. 87
POTATOES, new, per bushel.	40	.. 44
EGGS, per 100.	1 00	.. —

REMARKS.—July 28th.—But little change has occurred since our last. The receipts of flour have not been large, but in anticipation of the large crops soon to be brought into market, the holders are not quite as firm. A slight demand has occurred for shipments. Without a large and steady export, prices must soon recede materially. Small parcels of fresh southern flour, choice brands, have brought 7 dollars. Corn is quite plenty, and prices have gone down.

PORK has slightly advanced—first quality of Mess is held firmly at 8 dollars, and Bacon and Lard is rather higher.

BUTTER AND CHEESE are plenty, and prices declining.

THE CROPS of Grain and Grass have been gathered throughout a large portion of the country, and almost everywhere good and substantial. The Wheat has been slightly affected with rust in some places, but though we can learn of no section where the crops have been essentially diminished by this cause, we hear almost everywhere of greatly increased production.

CATTLE MARKET.—800 Cattle in market, including what were left over last week, of which \$5 50 to 6 dols. was the general range, but choice went above and inferior below these prices. 2500 SHEEP and LAMBS, of which 200 were left over. Sheep, 1.50 cts. to 4 dols.; Lambs from 1 dollar to 1 dollar 75 cents; 50 Cows and Calves all sold at 20 to 30 dols.; Veals 2 to 8 dollars each; Hogs, 3 dollars to 3 dollars and a half, live weight.

In consequence of the removal of the former publisher of this paper to England, it will hereafter be published by Messrs. SAXTON and MILES, booksellers and publishers generally, at No. 205 Broadway. All letters on business relating to the Am. Agriculturist, should be addressed, POST PAID, to them.

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Important Sale to Agriculturists.

IMPROVED SHORT HORN DURHAM CATTLE

On Thursday, the 8th September,

At 10 o'clock, will be sold at public sale, at the Exhibition ground of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society, Rising Sun, on the Germantown Road, 3 miles from the city, a choice selection of splendid DURHAM DAIRY STOCK, from the herd of James Gowen, Esq., of Mount Airy, consisting of imported Cows, young Bulls and Calves, from Dairy Maid, Pochontas, Victoria, etc., and by the celebrated bulls Colostr, Prince of Wales, and Leander.

This sale will afford to breeders an opportunity of adding to their stocks thorough bred animals of high character and pure blood, and their diffusion into proper hands is a primary object in this sale, together with the necessity of a separation of the herd to prevent over close breeding.

Catalogues will be ready in due time, and the cattle may be examined at the Exhibition ground two days previous to the sale.

Contents of this Number.

The American Institute, its history,	129
Fair of do. for 1842,	131
New-York State Agricul. Soc. and Show for 1842,	133
Sales of English Pigs,	134
Tour in England, Show of Yorkshire Ag. Society,	135
Kentucky Farming concluded,	138
Suggestions for regulating Premiums at Fairs,	140
Summer Food and Drinks,	142
Farming Tools,	143
Acknowledgements,	144
Southern Ag. Fruits and Products, by J. McCaughan,	145
Saxon Sheep, by H. D. Grove,	147
Bokhara and Sweet Clover, by J. H. Hepburn,	149
Weeds of Agriculturists, by Examiner,	150
To breed Males or Females, by J. H. J.	151
Blight in Pear tree, by H.	152
The Berkshire Boar, Windsor Castle, with cut and remarks, by J. Mahard and R. H. Hendrickson—South-	
ern Fruits, by T. Affleck,	153
Yorkshire Swine—Cultivation of the Raspberry,	154
Uses of the Raspberry and Receipts,	155
Varieties of Wheat—Pulverizing the Soil,	156
Barley from Hudson's Bay—Reports for Premium	
Butter and Cheese—Receipts,	157
Farmer's Encyclopedia—Dollar Farmer—Farm House	
of the 19th Century—Directory for Fairs in 1842,	158
Reply to Geo. Reed—Silk Cocoons—Sheep Husband-	
ry—Dr. M. W. Phillips—Saltpetre—Greasing wagons	159